BYAAAAH!!!

NO WEBSITE
NO MIRC
NO E-MAIL

HERE'S THE 6TH VOLUME OF THE MANGA: NODAME CANTABILE.
FOR THE FANS BY A FAN.
REMEMBER, IF YOU LIKE IT, GO BUY IT!
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BUT IT'S STILL VISIBLE,
AS I REALLY DON'T CARE TOO MUCH ABOUT THE QUALITY.
SCANNED > CROPPED > CLEANED > SAVED.
ALSO I'VE DONE A QUICK JOB ON ANY DOUBLE PAGE SPREADS,
JUST TO MAKE IT EASIER TO READ.
IF YOU DON'T LIKE MY ATTEMPT, GO BUY IT FOR
YOURSELVES AND ENJOY YOUR OWN VERSION..
ANYHOW ENJOY!

NEXT UP: DOUBLE RELEASE OF MY FAVE ANIME MANGA.
NOTE: LATEST VOLUME OUT, AND IT'S WHERE
THE ANIME IS UP TO AT THE MOMENT.
HMM LOOKS LIKE A DOUBLE RELEASE.
WASN'T PLANNING TO, BUT MEH.
NEXT WEEKS RELEASES WILL ALSO BE 2 VOLS
OF A TITLE I CONSIDER ONE OF MY FAVOURITE ANIME'S.
SO KEEP A LOOK OUT.
DAMNIT I CAN'T REMEMBER WHAT ELSE I WAS GOING TO SAY.
ANYWAY ENJOY!

RU

6

Nodame Cantabile

TOMOKO NINOMIYA

Winner of the Kodansha Manga of the Year Award

デルレイ

Nodame Cantabile 6

TOMOKO NINOMIYA

Ballantine Books

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After Momogaoka Music University's festival, Classic Life *magazine runs a big story on Shinichi's amazing conducting performance. But since graduation, he's feeling frustrated—and* not *because he still has a fear of flying (despite the work of a determined hypnotherapist!). Shinichi wonders what the future holds, and then a chance meeting leads the music prodigy into a whole new direction. Meanwhile, when Nodame visits Shinichi's family, no one escapes unscathed. Now the friendship between Nodame and Shinichi is threatened. Could this mean the end of Nodame's Cantabile?*

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Winner of the Kodansha Manga of the Year Award

Nodame Cantabile

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TOMOKO NINOMIYA

TRANSLATED AND ADAPTED BY
David and Eriko Walsh

LETTERED BY
Michaelis/Carpelis Design

BALLANTINE BOOKS • NEW YORK

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A Note from the Author

Nodame is already a 4th-year student.
I missed Ohkochi in the graduation.

Tomoko Ninomiya

Honorifics Explained

Throughout the Del Rey Manga books, you will find Japanese honorifics left intact in the translations. For those not familiar with how the Japanese use honorifics and, more important, how they differ from American honorifics, we present this brief overview.

Politeness has always been a critical facet of Japanese culture. Ever since the feudal era, when Japan was a highly stratified society, use of honorifics—which can be defined as polite speech that indicates relationship or status—has played an essential role in the Japanese language. When addressing someone in Japanese, an honorific usually takes the form of a suffix attached to one's name (example: "Asuna-san"), or as a title at the end of one's name or in place of the name itself (example: "Negi-sensei," or simply "Sensei!").

Honorifics can be expressions of respect or endearment. In the context of manga and anime, honorifics give insight into the nature of the relationship between characters. Many English translations leave out these important honorifics, and therefore distort the "feel" of the original Japanese. Because Japanese honorifics contain nuances that English honorifics lack, it is our policy at Del Rey not to translate them. Here, instead, is a guide to some of the honorifics you may encounter in Del Rey Manga.

-san: This is the most common honorific and is equivalent to Mr., Miss, Ms., or Mrs. It is the all-purpose honorific and can be used in any situation where politeness is required.

-sama: This is one level higher than "-san" and is used to confer great respect.

-dono: This comes from the word "tono," which means "lord." It is an even higher level than "-sama" and confers utmost respect.

-kun: This suffix is used at the end of boys' names to express familiarity or endearment. It is also sometimes used by men among friends, or when addressing someone younger or of a lower station.

-chan: This is used to express endearment, mostly toward girls. It is also used for little boys, pets, and even among lovers. It gives a sense of childish cuteness.

Bozu: This is an informal way to refer to a boy, similar to the English term "kid" or "squirt."

Sempai: This title suggests that the addressee is one's senior in a group or organization. It is most often used in a school setting, where underclassmen refer to their upperclassmen as "sempai." It can also be used in the workplace, such as when a newer employee addresses an employee who has seniority in the company.

Kohai: This is the opposite of "sempai" and is used toward underclassmen in school or newcomers in the workplace. It connotes that the addressee is of a lower station.

Sensei: Literally meaning "one who has come before," this title is used for teachers, doctors, or masters of any profession or art.

[blank]: Usually forgotten in these lists, but perhaps the most significant difference between Japanese and English. The lack of honorific means that the speaker has permission to address the person in a very intimate way. Usually, only family, spouses, or very close friends have this kind of permission. Known as *yobisute,* it can be gratifying when someone who has earned the intimacy starts to call one by one's name without an honorific. But when that intimacy hasn't been earned, it can be very insulting.

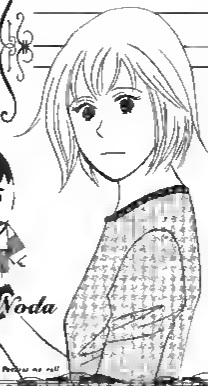
のだめカンタービレ

Nodame Cantabile

#6

二ノ宮知子

Introducing the residents of
Nodame's Kingdom
Capriccio Cantabile! ♥
Mukyaa... (?)



Noda Megumi
Nickname: ~ Nodame ♡ ~
3rd year Piano student. She can't read notes, but she's a good player and a wonder girl.
Her love for Chiaki is still burning and their relationship is getting closer.

Megumi Noda

Chiaki Shinichi
4th year Piano student. He is the son of a famous pianist and wants to be a conductor. Nodame clings to him all the time. He has great talent and is a star at school with his charisma.

Shinichi Chiaki

Okuyama Masumi
4th year Orchestral Music student. He's a claustrophobic timpanist. Okuyama is also in love with Chiaki, and considers Nodame his rival. Is he a girl? No! No! Okuyama is a boy with a mustache!

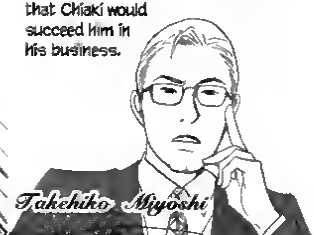
Masumi Okuyama

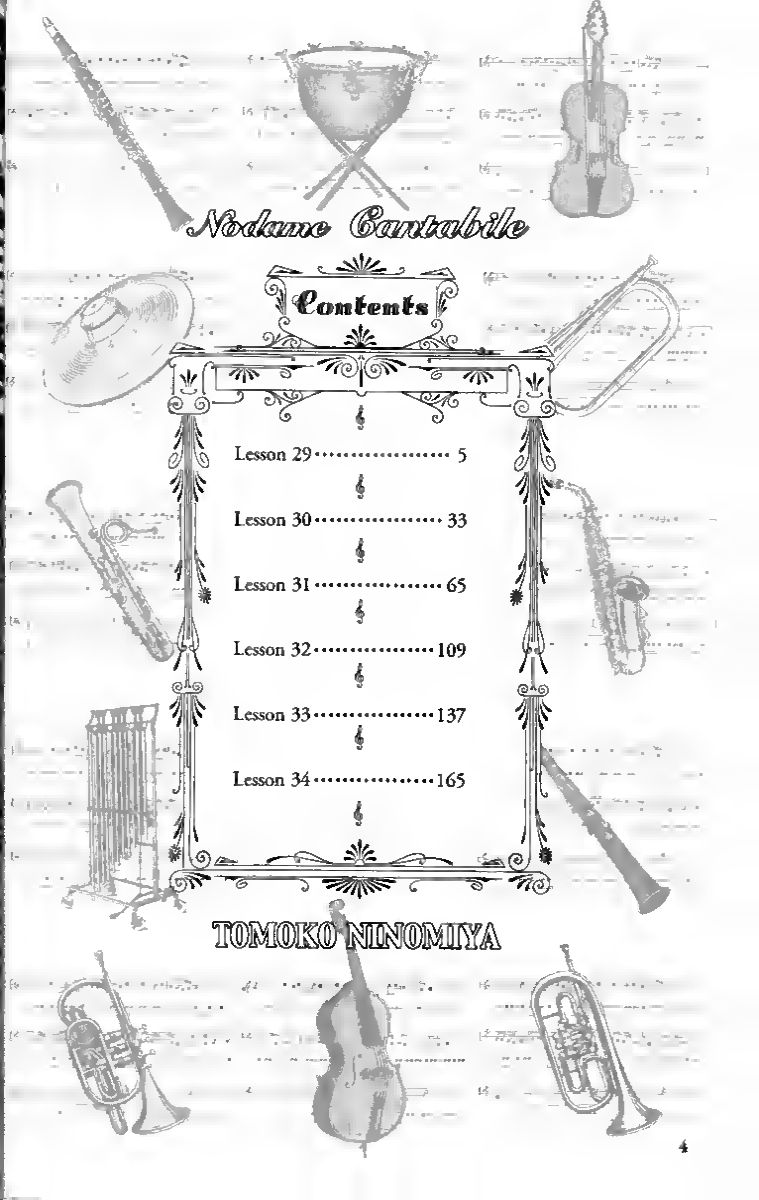
Mine Ryutaro
3rd year Violin student.
His father owns a Chinese restaurant right next to the college. He plays electric violin and is a rocker boy at heart. In many ways, Nodame and he have similar personalities, and they are also friends!

Kiyora Miki
She was the orchestra's concert-master at the Nina Lutz music festival. She was studying in Vienna, but her master was invited to instruct at the university that Chiaki attends, so she's now returned to Japan. She suggests "a subject" to Chiaki.

Toshihiko Miyoshi
He's the son of Takehiko and used to idolize Chiaki. But he believes that Chiaki is perfect for everything, so now he has mixed feelings.

Takehiko Miyoshi
He is Chiaki's uncle and also the 2nd generation president of the Miyoshi Corporation. He's been taking care of Chiaki's university fund and living expenses, but the truth is he wishes that Chiaki would succeed him in his business.





Nodame Cantabile

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TOMOKO NINOMIYA

Lesson29

JANUARY, BEGINNING OF THE NEW YEAR
RYUTARO MINE, VIOLIN STUDENT, 3RD YEAR
MEGUMI NODA, PIANO STUDENT, 3RD YEAR
Exams are coming soon!!
SHINICHI CHIAKI, PIANO STUDENT, 4TH YEAR
MASUMI OKUYAMA, ORCHESTRA STUDENT, 4TH YEAR

Hey, look! Look at the new Classic Life!!
WA HA HA HA HA
キャー
KYAAA!
Wow! Great!
Is this serious?
A ha ha ha!
What's going on here?
Hi
What's with the new Classic Life?
Oh, Mine-kun.
Oh, a concert-master
A HA HA HA
CLASSIC LIFE
Look at Manabu Sakuma's "Dream Color ☆ Classic" for this month.
Chiaki-sama's in it!
CLASSIC LIFE VOL. 2
Eh!
No way! I'm a big fan!
He's in "Dream Color ☆ Classic"!?
Yeah! We're just as surprised!
UH..
I still can't believe that Manabu Sakuma came to our school festival.
HA HA HA

"This piano prelude, like brightness, shines into an unfathomable, deep ravine."
"I felt I'd been pushed off a cliff into a mountain gorge."
"I peeked at the brightness and in a flash"
"and spurts like a spring gushing forth,"
"The orchestra flows like thin threads through a hazy valley"
"then it intertwines with the sound of a piano bursting into hundreds of waves."

Sakuma-san! Come on. This way!
Dream Color Time again!/F
"Oh... What beautiful Rachmaninoff."
STP
"That took me away to a golden dream world."
*See translation notes.
SHOON/
*Puri Gorota chocolate for a year!!
Chiaki-sempai! Look, look!
GIREKO
PURI GORITA
PEROCHU CHOCOLATE

It's a little early but I'll give you one for Valentine's Day. ♡
Here, Sempai!
I like you. ♡ ♡
Hey... I'm practicing.
I won them in a lottery at the shopping center!
KYAA
Don't you think that's great!?
They're all Puri Gorotas!!
Huh?
What'd you say?
Only this much...?
↑ He seems to be shocked.
Wow! Liszt!?
Sempai, is this what you're going to play for the graduation exam!?
LISZT
Ah...!

GYA HA HA HA HA
ギャあはは
"Dance in the Village Inn"!?
You're going to play this!?
What...
This is from Lenau's poem that was inspired by *Goethe's "Faust"...
Hey! Listen!!
*Goethe was a great German writer who was very popular in the 19th century. He had a friendship with Beethoven.
This is Liszt's Mephisto Waltz No. 1, "Dance in the Village Inn."
*Kazue...
Ah...
"Dance in the Village Inn"...
CHUCKLE
How about you? What are you going to play for the exam!?
It's a match! It's a match! ♡ It sounds just like you!!
It's a match!
A-HA HA HA!
SHOCKED
RHEEE
Oh... I'm playing Mozart
え...
EH?
Why are you looking away?
Hey...

*Kazue • See translation notes for Puri Genota.

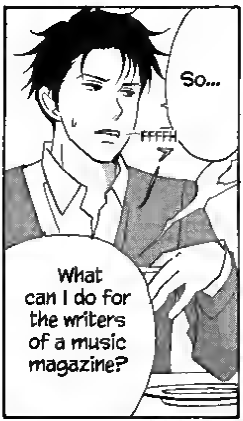
I can give everybody a chocolate. ♡
There are a lot of them.
Ah!
Have you been practicing?
Yeah...
Why don't you play it for me!?
By the way, Chiaki-sempai...
Oh...
Hey, Nodame!!
I got a phone call from him yesterday asking me if I bought him that photo collection book. Yet...
Of course!?
Really!?
That's good. ♡
PHEW.
Huh?
Do you think...
Milch is still alive?

I thought she got serious about the piano.
Then I'll see you at dinner, Sempai! ♡
BATAN
バタン
PHEW
ほっ
Nodame...
Ah...
What did she mean by "satisfied," and "I'm very happy now"?
I never should have played that duet with her.
I'm glad to find you so soon!
I know we don't have an appointment with you today.
Chiaki-kun!

えっ
EH~!
You got a job with an orchestra, Masumi chan!?
I'm Kawano from *Classic Life*.
It's nice to meet you. ♡
HOWAA
ほわー
Great!! That's a famous orchestra!
I didn't expect to get it but...
maybe I am a genius after all?
ホホホ
HO HO HO
Right ♡
The Shinto Philharmonic.
There was an opening, so I auditioned.

Congratulations, Masumi-chan!
This is a blessing for you. ♡
What's that supposed to mean!?
GRR
キィー
Maybe it was because of your hair?
フフフ♡
GYABO!
ビシッ
WHACK
フンッ
HN!
Why'd you do that!?
You!! Don't be a selfish jerk while I'm gone!!
ムキャー
MUKYA
What is *that* supposed to mean!?
I mean Chiaki-sama!
I heard he's going to graduate school!!
Ah!
You're right ♡
EHE
He's already taken his entrance exam to start in November.

MORN
もぉ〜っ
Why?
I thought for sure he'd go study abroad...
I'm sorry, sis!
Of course, I'm happy that he's staying in Japan.
Anyway, sempai and Nodame...
We'll have a love rendezvous this year.
♡
GRR
ギャボー
If you do, I'll kill you for sure!
You better not rendez-vous!
GYABO
ギャボ
CHINESE UDON KEN
★ URAKEN ★
Hm...
Chiaki-kun comes to this restaurant a lot...?
Chinese...
This doesn't match his image...



↑ Bad attitude.

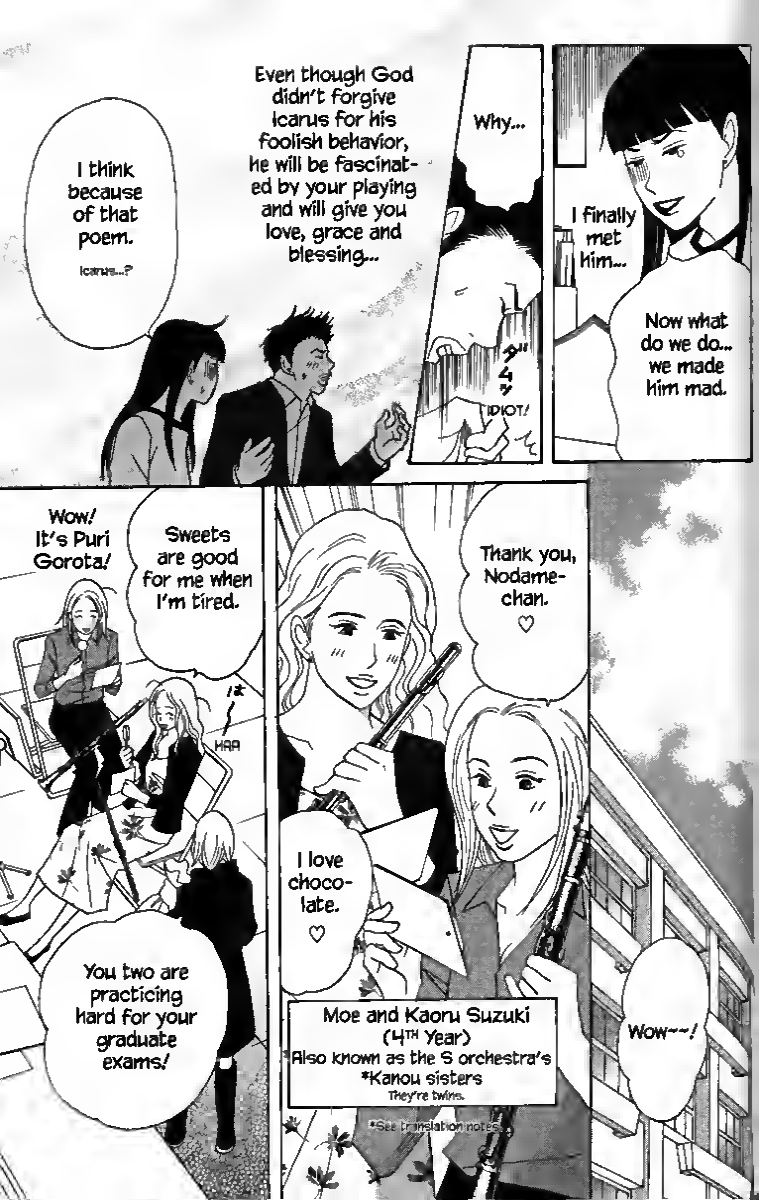
HO HO HO
I'm sorry we printed them without asking you.
HEE
"Dream Color ☆ Classic" with a New Year's special pin-up!
SHOON!
Dream Color ☆ Classic
This one too.
"unfathomable, deep ravine..."
CLASSIC
This is...
CLASSIC
▲ He's too embarrassed to read it.
Were you inspired by Goethe?
Eh!?
Would you read my article? ♡
I wrote it about you
"Take care of my pupil!" That's what he said. ♡
But we got a permit to take your pictures before, from Stresemann.
Aren't they nice pictures?
Old man!!

I want to go to the graduation concert to hear you perform it.
Liszt!? Are you playing that for your graduation exam?
Now, now.
Sakuma-san, Sakuma-san.
Are you familiar with him!?
Faust
I'm currently studying the Mephisto Waltz.
Sakuma-san has become a big fan of yours since your last performance.
As you can see...
Not another weirdo...
Chiaki-kun, you're going to study abroad after you graduate, aren't you?
Eh...
As Stresemann's pupil, of course.
Are you going to compete in piano or conducting competitions over there?
In fact...
I've also been watching you since you conducted at Nina Lutz's Music Festival.
♡

Wait...
Hold on a minute...
I don't have any plans to go abroad and be in any competitions.
What is this interview for, anyway?
Eh...
No way!
UPSET
That's ridiculous!!
Oh boy, here it comes
The time to follow your aspirations has come. Go! Fly off into the sun!
Glittering, bright in the western sky, spread your beautiful white wings! Let your musical spirit fly high!
You should go study abroad!

And I can't fly!!
I...
I'm going to graduate school.
Airplane phobia
HUH
Oh! Why don't you start rowing your boat? The path the gods have chosen for you is about to begin...!
The greatest treasure of noble art is sleeping on a golden island, where Poseidon rules in the vast expanse of a far off ocean that is smiling.
<Translation> You would do well if you'd go abroad and enter competitions.
I can't take a ship either!!
Why don't you go study abroad?
You have a lot of talent,
and you have a great master!
Ocean (ship) phobia
Don't you know about that?

It's none of your business what I want to do!
You're not going to compete either?
Why not?
What are you going to do in Japan!?
Just leave me alone!
You guys don't have to worry about me!!
SKRCH
Sensei! Here's your sandwich!
Ah...
I put pickles on it.
SLAM
Wrap it up!
I'll come back later!
Right-o! ♫
Chiaki-kun is "upper class"?

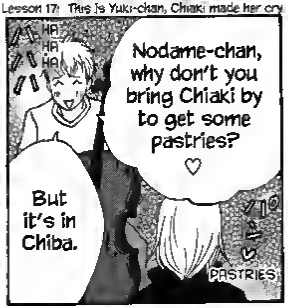

I think because of that poem.
Icarus...?
Even though God didn't forgive Icarus for his foolish behavior, he will be fascinated by your playing and will give you love, grace and blessing...
Why...
IDIOT!
I finally met him...
Now what do we do... we made him mad.
Wow! It's Puri Gorota!
Sweets are good for me when I'm tired.
HAA
You two are practicing hard for your graduate exams!
Thank you, Nodame-chan. ♡
I love chocolate. ♡
Moe and Kaoru Suzuki (4TH Year)
Also known as the S orchestra's *Kanou sisters
They're twins.
*See translation notes
Wow~~!

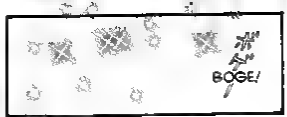
Huh... You didn't know about that?
The 4th year practical skills exam is also an audition for the graduation concert.
Eh... The 2nd exam?
Hmm... ♡ Because we get to take the second exam.
Don't you think that's great? ♡
All the better students who are selected from the second exam will perform in the concert in March.
Then Chiaki-sempai gets to take the second exam, too?
Oh...
Remember, Chiaki-sama had trained us hard!
HORRIBLE!!
AWFUL!! I'LL KILL YOU!!
He was just like a demon or a devil.
Do you think it's because of the S orchestra effect?
UKYU
The S orchestra effect!?
We didn't expect to make it that far.
A HA HA

↑ Chiaki looked like this from the Suzuki sisters' point of view

This is the first time we've ever done that.
A HA HA!
We tried so hard we even forgot to do our skin care.
Yeah
Ever since then, we've been practicing hard.
He was strict, but he made us sound good...
But it was fun with Chiaki-sama conducting the orchestra.
But I won't need an instrument.
The company is related to music.
There's no chance I'll be playing in an orchestra...
We have jobs waiting for us when we graduate.
Oh... Kaoru-chan...
Don't you want to still play in the S orchestra, too?

Lesson 17: This Is Yuki-chan, Chiaki made her cry





Ah... but
I'm glad to hear Sempai will be going to a graduate school. ♡
Go ahead.
Hopefully, with someone from the same planet you're from.
Nodame wants to get married as soon as I graduate. ♡
Not everyone can get into an orchestra like Masumi-chan did.
A lot of people will be going abroad or going back to their parents.
I need to practice.
えっ
EHP
You're too noisy.
Go home as soon as you're done eating.
Nodame.
But Sempai...

Sempai... Why are you acting so frustrated?
You're so strange today.
Dinner is strange, too.
If you're going to complain, then don't eat it!!
All canned food
Go back to your place and practice!!
It's still exam time!
You don't have to worry about me!!
Next year you'll be graduating.
What are you going to do after that!?
What am I going to do...
Nodame is going to be a preschool teacher.
Or maybe elementary school...

A license is required to teach preschool

A pre-school teacher...
Nod-ame...
That's your dream?
I was going to return to my parents in Fukuoka and become a teacher but...
I want to stay in Tokyo where Chiaki-sempai is.
So I should try to get a job here. ♡

Me? In a competition!?
PFEW
You don't want to try out for them?
the competitions?
You're not considering
Yes. Why?
What are you talking about, Sempai!?
AHAHAHA
competition!
You take too long to enjoy something, it'll be taken away as if by a bird!
OK Meaningless
You...
Idiot!
You may be carefree, but you're still a good piano player!
Why don't you aim for a higher goal!?
Ah...

You have a lot of talent.
Why don't you go study abroad?
Just like the way I'm worrying about Nodame.
If they're worried about me
Sempai?
Hmm...
Aren't you feeling well?
But...
I should be more grateful and appreciative.

HYAA
HAUN
I think...
I see.
The problem isn't that I can't go abroad...
What are you going to do in Japan!?
That's it.

Lesson 30

のだめカンタービレ

Nodame Cantabile

Results of the 2nd exam?

Yeah. How'd you do, Chiaki?
The piano course is done, right?
Are you going to perform in the graduation concert?
Of course.
Die Geburt der Tragödie aus dem Geist der Music
I don't know my results yet, but...
If I don't, who else will?
Moe-chan is up next to play for the 2nd exam!
Chiaki-sempai! Mine-kun!

Great...
How cool!
It's the "S orchestra effect," isn't it. ♡

She really has become a good player.
But...
Moe's sister Kaoru is gonna play tomorrow for her 2nd exam, too.
And Kanai from the horns...
And some people from stringed instruments are also left for the 2nd exam!
We should go back to see them again!
Eh!
There are more from the S rchestra...?
Don't you think that's great?
HA HA HA

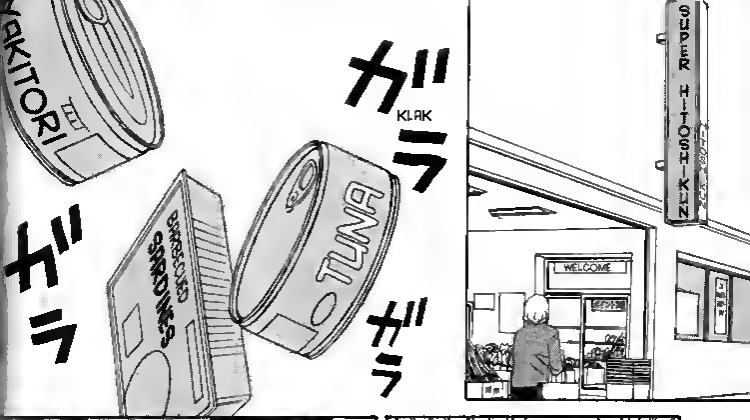
Then...
Every-body became good players
but it's a waste because the S orchestra is going to be gone.
They told me they're disappointed they won't be playing in an orchestra after they graduate.
Is that so...
Well, if they really wanted to keep playing...
Why couldn't they join a civic orchestra as a hobby while they work?
Hey, Chiaki...
I've been thinking...

Why don't we start an orchestra of our own outside of school?
Wow!
That's a great idea!!
Eh?
Look! Remember the summer festival this year!?
In Nagano
Outside of school!?
Wh... why!?
There was a student who played violin. He looked like *Sagojo.
Do you remember him, Chiaki?
Sagojo...!?
*SEE TRANSLATION NOTES
Oh...
which one...
Sagojo.....
was it him?

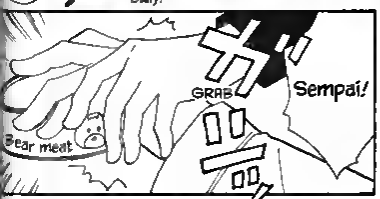
Mine
Kimura
He said he respects you a lot, Chiaki!
We've stayed in touch by exchanging letters.
I'm humiliated. He's actually a bit better than I am...
Sagojo is still a 2nd year student but he's a really good player!
Why exchange letters?
Why not use a cell phone to send messages?
You idiot! Don't get him started. Leave him alone. He's weird.
PHEW
And we talked about how we'd both like to play in an orchestra again like the one at the festival.
Exchanging letters...?
Huh?
Are you crazy?
はぁ
HAA
We can gather talented people together.
HA HA HA
So he can be the concert-master.
What do you think, Chiaki?

There are a lot of orchestras similar to civic orchestras!
If we tried to make one, we could!
What do you mean by impractical!?
Chiaki!!
I don't have time to waste talking about impractical things.
Eh?
See you later!
Practice... practice...
So!
Everyone brings a donation or we can collect it.
It sounds just like Sagojo, doesn't it?
HOWAA...
I decline!!
Definitely
And you'll be in it?
Sagojo will be the concert-master.
Am I the conductor!?
And then?

Don't you want to be a conductor any more!?
The S orchestra will be gone!
You're going to graduate school for the piano course, right!?
But what are you going to do!?
If you say so, Chiaki.
Where are you going to conduct!?
Chiaki, you're an idiot!
Sempai...
15 YA
Satsuki Yakitori
TANAKA

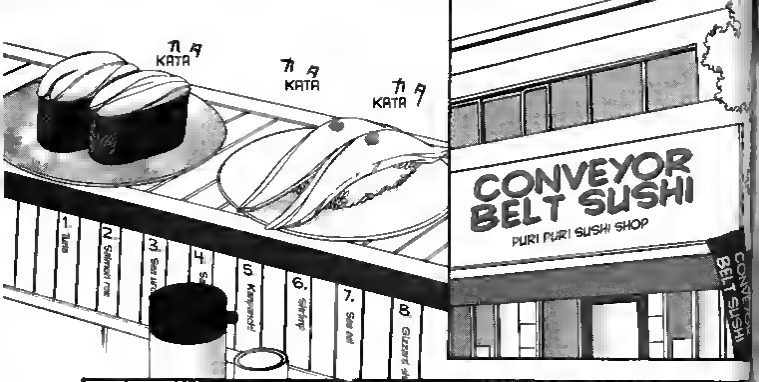

AKITORI
ガラ
KLAK
TUNA
SUPER HITOSHI-KUN
WELCOME

Fish meat
Deer meat...
Bear meat
KLAK
Bully?


GRAB
Sempai!
Bear meat

I'm gonna buy your dinner today!!
I'm sorry!
Scared!

Canned food again!?
ギャボ
GYABO!
MEAT
CANNED FOOD
SLICED MEAT
If you don't like it, then don't eat it.


カタ
KATA
カタ
KATA
カタ
KATA
CONVEYOR BELT SUSHI
PURI PURI SUSHI SHOP
CONVEYOR BELT SUSHI

Ah! Egg, egg. ♡
GRAB ひょい

Today, I'll treat you to sushi. ♡
Here's some tea. ♡
Please go ahead, sempai. ♡

Your favorite one isn't coming around?
What's wrong? Don't you want to eat, sempai?

Why is he hesitating?
Hey, that's Chiaki, isn't it?
Yeah, right.

Why is the sushi going around!?
Dammit!
He can't stand it
GASHA
Nodame can order for you.
KATA
KATA
KATA
PK
Sempai, that's on a gold plate!
It's 400 yen!!
HEE
Sea urchin eggs!!
MUKYA!
Hn. So so...
CHEW
CHEW
Here.
You can have it.
Students can only afford to eat sushi on the white plates!
You grabbed a plate of sea urchin eggs!?
Alert Nodame

Here.
Gyabo!!
ペラ〜ん
SHWIP
SLIVER
Flat fish, huh...
GASHA
Why aren't you eating the rice!?
MUKII
You're only eating the sashimi!
Ah!! You grabbed another gold plate!!
No... Nodame wants to eat sashimi, too...
FLOP
Here.
Ginger sushi.

Chiaki-sempai, you're acting weird!
You're unusual!!
You're like Kazuo after all...!
Bukee---!!
CONVEY BELT SU Ai
PURI PURI SUSHI SH
Ha ha ha ha ha ha!
That's enough for us to eat at a conveyor belt restaurant!
People usually don't go into a sushi restaurant if they only have 3,000 yen to spend.
MAD
Normally!!
I'll never buy you sushi again, that's for sure!
Didn't you offer to buy me dinner?
I ended up buying dinner for you!

I should have taken you to a noodle restaurant...
MUMBLE MUMBLE
I thought she was taking me to Uraken so she wouldn't have to pay.
She was concerned enough to take me out to eat... in her own way she was looking out for me...
What brought this on?
Am I making them worry...?
Well...

He has a career.
He's active in Japan.
Hiroshi Asano's a conductor who's coming to instruct the A orchestra this year.
He researched it.
He's a reasonable man, I could win his favor...
He's busy, so I don't think he'll be able to instruct the orchestra full time.
So... if anything were to happen to him, I could get the director...
Huh!?
I never realized you were such a schemer.
Aren't you acting just like Milch?
to let me conduct the A orchestra.

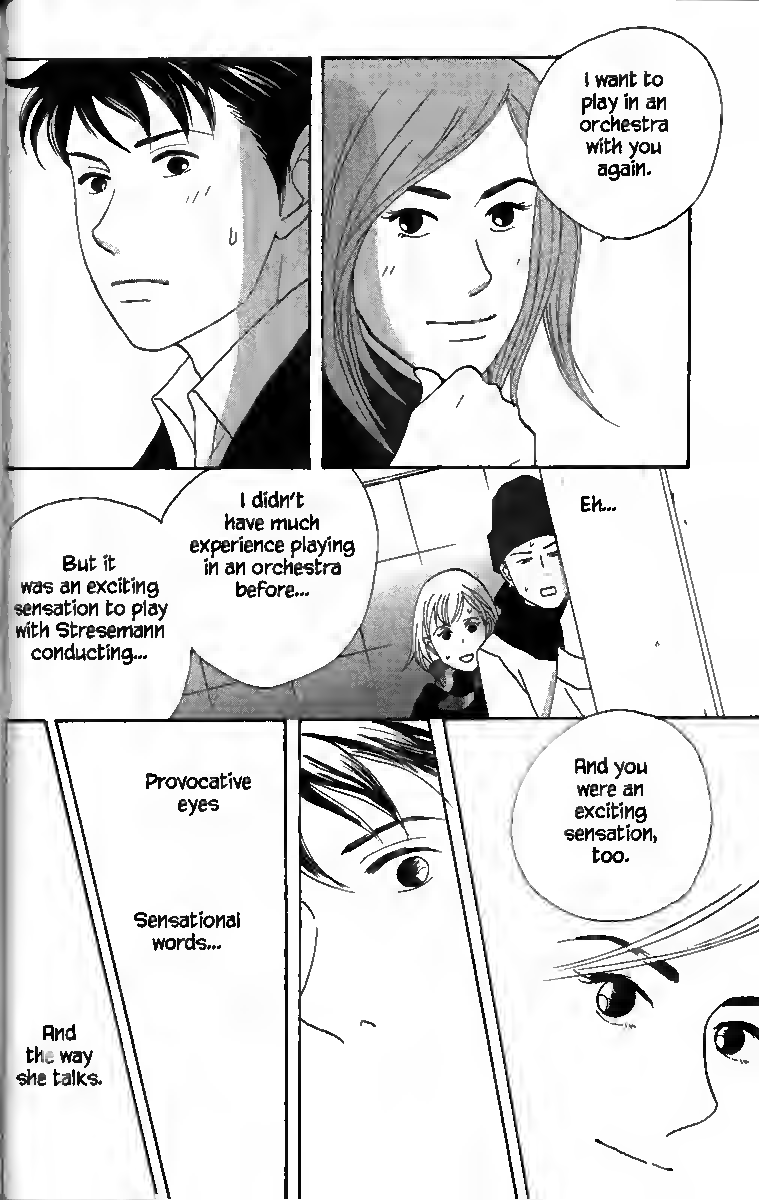
Don't say that!
I need to find something I can do in Japan...
I'm getting desperate
Chiaki!
I won't give up~~~
A new orchestra.
He's desperate, too.
He's right, Mine-kun!
You pester me too much!!

Sempai sees everything sempai's way...
Chiaki-kun!?
AHEM..
Long time no
Wow! You're really here...
Do you remember me?

Concert-master!
Kiyora...
[Kiyora is her first name, Miki is her family name.]
Miki-san.
おっ
OH!
You even remember my name.
Because...
I like you.
OH...
あ...
GYAA!
きゃ
A ha ha ha ha!!
I remember her.

She was concertmaster at the festival in Nagano!!
Eh!
Why?
Weren't you supposed to go study at the Vienna National Music College!?
At our graduate school!?
My master is going to instruct here this year.
That's why I came, too.

His name is Kai Dowin.
Have you heard of him?
He was the principal violinist in the Berlin Philharmonic!
No way! Why is he coming to our school?
I heard he's an old friend of the director at this university...
Supposedly he and Stresemann fought over her when they were young... I wonder if that's true?
Anyway, that means I'll be staying in Japan this year.
This is a good opportunity for me, so I'm considering entering some competitions.
The director... a magical woman!!
And there's one more thing I'd like to do... ♡
?


I want to play in an orchestra with you again.
Eh...
I didn't have much experience playing in an orchestra before...
But it was an exciting sensation to play with Stresemann conducting...
And you were an exciting sensation, too.
Provocative eyes
Sensational words...
And the way she talks.

We'll do it together.
She sounds like she knows my circumstances.
Why don't you start an orchestra with me?
I'll do it.
He answered right away...
No...
I mean I want to do it.
But...

I met a lot of very friendly people playing with that orchestra.
I don't know why but
I'm still in touch with many of them. ♡
Eh!?
I bet I can get a lot of members from the festival orchestra to join.
And there are more players who are either abroad right now or in Kansai.
He's in Boston right now.
THMP
ドキ
THMP
ドキ
If you ask them, I think we could get many of them to play with us.
But I heard he's returning this year.
Are you in touch with the "oboe man"?
Ah...
How about cello pose man!?
Yeah, that's Kuroki-kun.
Ah... Kikuchi-kun, right?

I might be able to do it...
That's it...
PFu
"Dream Color ☆ Classic"
You're the superstar now, Chiaki-kun.
You bet!
Eh?
Me?
Huh?
This concert-master
An oboe player and a cello player...
with proven talent
and others
I can imagine the sound!
SHINICHI CHIAKI
KYOKO MIKI

Just like at the music festival...
Chiaki!
I'll be able to conduct again!
Then, I'll see you in spring!
Oops
Let me and Sagojo join your orchestra!
I don't mind if Miki-san is the concert master!!

Do I have to audition!?
I'll do it!!
Sagojo, yes... but you...
Sa...
Then...
You'll have to be in the A orchestra at the next exam.
If you are, then I'll let you in.
You got it!!
I don't know for sure yet if we can make an orchestra...
WAAA
おお〜
Practice!

Chiaki-sempai, you're going to make an orchestra, right?
Yeah.
I will do it.

NODAME
CANTABILE

Lesson 31

MARCH GRADUATION CONCERT, 2nd DAY
MOMO GAKUIN MUSIC UNIVERSITY GRADUATION CONCERT
Is this a wood-block?
WOW...
KONK
KONK
It's small, isn't it?
Oh!
KONK
Ahhh...
GORO
GORO
KONK

Huh? Huhh...
KONK
It sounds weird...
You're such an idiot!!
What are you doing!?
GYABO
Now what am I gonna do!?
It's cracked!!
HEE
I have a performance soon!
KONK
KONK
STUTTER
I was looking for the school's wood-block...
Ah!
RECEIVING
Yoshi
DING-A-LING-A-LING.

Eh?
ピーポー
DEE DOO
Sorry... Masumi.
DEE DOO
ピーポー
DEE DOO
I can't go today...
What are you doing!?
Hey, Yoshi!?
Just hurry up and get to the school.
To Kodan Hospital, and hurry!
PANT
PANT
I'm in an ambulance right now...
DEE DOO
KLIK
Sorry... I
I might have appendicitis...
DEE DOO
You can play this piece, can't you!?
Nodame!
CONCERTO
Eh!?
What am I supposed to do without an accompanist!?
Yoshi isn't coming?
KYAA!
BEEE
No way...

If you have a recording instead of sheet music...
UHHH...
オラ?
キャー!
GYAA
Today we only have the sheet music!!
Oh... What am I gonna do?
I don't have an accompanist.
キャアア
KYAA
I can't do it!
I'm at a complete loss!!

Hey, That's not right.
There's one more. Masumi-chan's supposed to perform this afternoon, too...
Moe and Kaoru are the only ones left to perform from the S orchestra.
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
WHAAA
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
Kaoru's playing was good...
!?
Chiaki....!?
CONCERTO POUR PERCUSSION
I've never even heard of it!
What is this!?
I... I can't play this piece

I can't do it for sure, now!!
There's just... no way.
But there's only one hour left, right?
Maybe, if I had time to practice...
Is that over a 12-note spread?
My fingers couldn't even reach!
HEE
Besides Yoshi, who has been my accompanist...?
Who could play this piece just by sight-reading it?
Masumi-chan!!
I brought him!!
BAM
That miracle person would be...

The only one...
What movement are you going to play?
The 1st, 2nd and 4th.
Hmm... It's kind of difficult.
ANDRE JOLIVET
CONCERTO
for PERCUSSION
Andre Jolivet
I heard this piece once before.
In a competition...
Ah... Chiaki-sama.
Are you really all right with playing this?
On such short notice?
I don't have a choice...
Don't I have to do it?
PWAP
Okay...
Let me play through it once

Yes!
Chiaki-sama!!
WHAA
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
Oh! Chiaki!?
WHAA
Hey...
PANT
PANT
Are you all right?

No!
I can't rehearse casually... I'm always serious when I practice!
SWAY
CLAP
CLAP
I told you that it's okay to rehearse casually.
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
I'm ready!
For four years
One by one I've been putting my heart into playing sounds.
My lovely percussion instruments.

And
now...
I'm going to play with the man I've been in love with for 4 years!
Listen!

This is my love for the sound of percussion!!
ANDRE JOLIVET
CONCERTO for percussion

4 years ago
I came from Yamagata to Tokyo with my heart longing to play music.

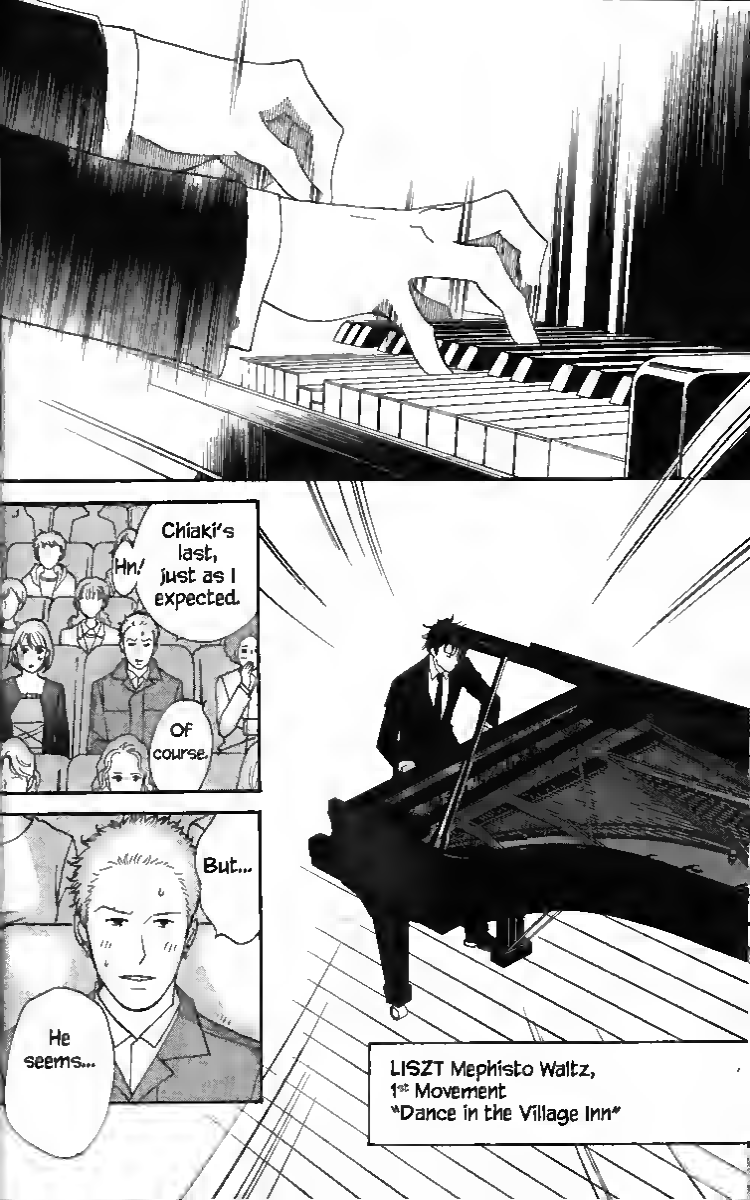
I was scared.
Small sky
Small room
Claustrophobic
Concrete jungle
HYUU
I can't stand it...
Are you okay?
That was...
What!? That's a man!?
Shinichi Chiaki, adored by the girls since he arrived at this school.
But he wasn't my type at all.

That was the magical power of love.
PING
You should be more careful.
And don't sway when you walk.
He broke down the concrete wall around my heart in mere seconds.
But also
the pain of love...

Great...
Thank you, Chiaki-sama.
You're giving me such nice memories of you in the end.
I will finally...

Graduate from you!!
WHAA
WHAA
I'm going to start a new orchestra.

It's awkward to ask a professional, but...
If you have the time...
Timpani...
Would you play in our new orchestra?
はいっ
Yes!
ヒエ
HEE
Don't do that!
GRADUATION
Actually, I guess I won't be graduating from Chiaki-sama. ♡
Wow!
Yeah!


Chiaki's last, just as I expected.
Hn!
Of course.
But...
He seems...
LISZT Mephisto Waltz, 1st Movement "Dance in the Village Inn"

He's the last person to play and he's performing so casually!
Huh.
That's okay! He's enjoying it!
What's wrong with Chiaki?
That's the S orchestra effect. ♡
A HA HA HA
You will be good thing, Mop.
S orchestra banzai!!

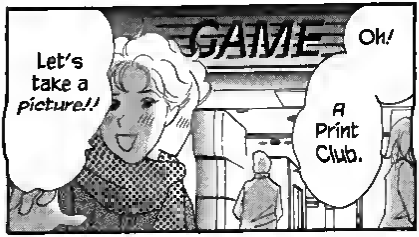
Well...
All 4th year students of the S orchestra
BOM BANG DOG
BOM BANG DOG
WHAA
S orchestra, banzai!!
To you, too!
Drop-out Ryutaro
Zieg zion!
Congratulations on graduating!!
Take care of yourselves!!
LEADER

WHAA
Legend of S orchestra
HA HA HA
KYAA
Masumi-chan!
You did a good job at the concert.
Have some beer
You were so cool!!
FIZZZ
But
Nodame was frustrated because I couldn't play that piece when you asked.
So would you please play it with me some day?
I'll be practicing.
*See translation notes.
Ah
Okay!
Nodame-chan! Get me another beer!!
Nodame-chan! Let's play *yakyuken!
Why don't you play the pianica, Nodame!?
Here! You should drink some, too!
What in the heck are you wearing that dress for!?
GABOOO
WHAA
OHH

Kaoru-chan! I...
I want to confess my feelings for her...!
Ah!
THUTHUMP
THUTHUMP
Today's my last chance...
My turn!
Kaoru...
It's my turn to serve him beer!
No, my turn!!
PAT
GYAA!
I'll kill you!
WHAA
Back off, Suzuki sisters!!
HEE
Ugly!
Trade seats with me!!
That's not fair!
KYAA

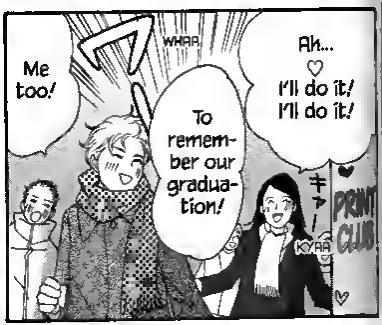
Yeah! Let's go to another bar!!
Karaoke!

Damn, Chiaki! To the very end!!
Hey, Tamaki...
I have a good idea.


GAME
Let's take a picture!!
Oh!
A Print Club.

HA HA HA
We're going to a karaoke bar.
Same place as usual!?

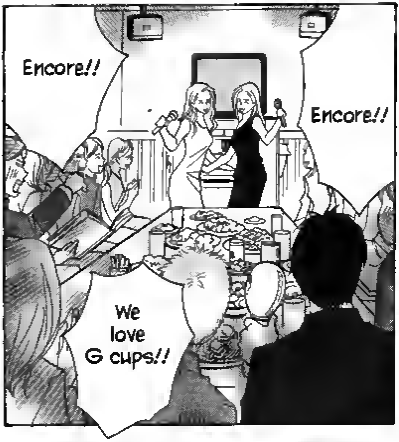
Chiaki!

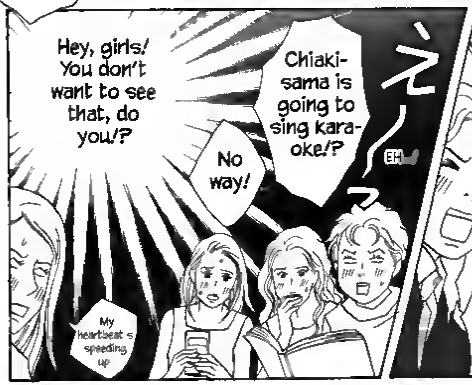

Me too!
WHAA
To remember our graduation!
Ah... ♡ I'll do it! I'll do it!
PRINT CLUB

Taiko Drum Master
Taiko Drum Master
DON DON
Taiko Drum Master
Come over here!
There's a fun game I want you to try!
I bet this'll be fun!
Come on! Try it, Chiaki!
My treat!
Taiko Drum Master...?
Here, hold the sticks.
You have to have a good sense of rhythm to play this, like a conductor!
HA HA HA
When you hear the music play, you must watch the circle on the screen. When the faces overlap the drum, you have to hit it and stay in time with the music!
BAM
BAM

Mai
Costume's Magic
Puri Gorota
Taimin 4
"Puri Gorota" is okay, right!
KACHING
Hey! Everybody! Chiaki's gonna play the drums!
I'll choose the music...
Eh!?
You can also get a higher score if you're a good poser. (Not true)
Try playing the Japanese drum.
You can leave one black stain on your perfectly white handkerchief in the memory of all the ladies who dream of you!
Eh! Chiaki-sama!?
Is he going to play that game?
HA HA HA
Very Popular
Good luck, Chiaki!!
Now this is a real graduation show!!

All the percussion in this world belongs to me. ♡
AH!
ウィ
WORK
Wait a minute!!
Chiaki-sama.
ズドドド
ZU BAM BAM BLAM
Don't say my love is too strong My feelings for you keep growing.
A - B - C - D - E - F - G - cup
KARAOKE
WHOA
You're the big master!!
KYAA
Great, Masumi-chan!
You're cool!
DAMMIT!
くそっ
KYAA



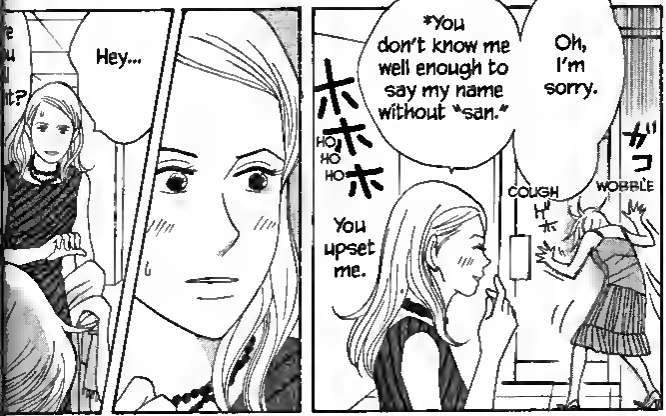


It seems they want to.

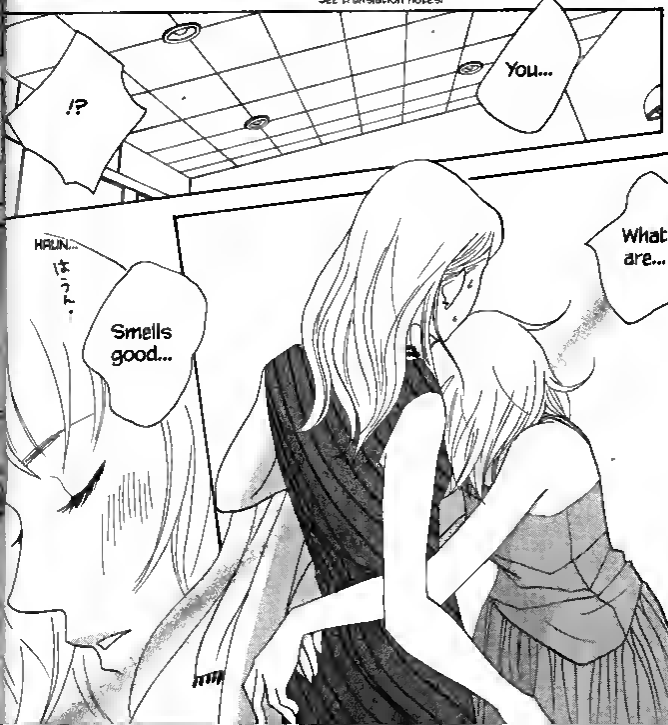
Dirty pair revival

Shinichi Chiaki is going to sing his heart out for Miyuki Nakajima's song!!
I know this song...
TWANG
He likes Project X.
TWANG
This is my theme song!
HN
HN
Ah, Chiaki!!
Wait a second...
S orchestra dirty pair <END>
Ohkochi! You're tone deaf!
Stop singing!
WHAR
YUCK!
SPIN
SPIN
PUSH
Fuaaaah
STAGGER

Fuohh
Saiko Tagaya!!
BOHE!
WHACK



*See translation notes.



Saiko-san... You're pretty...
HEE
skinny...
You're skinny.
You have a figure...
Ahh!
SLAP
KSHHH
Water...
You'll feel better if you drink some.
GABO
GABO
Why is Shinichi dating a girl like this...?
Is it true?
GABO

Big hand...
Shinichi seems to like this type of girl...
Don't sleep
ZZZZZ
Me too...

Shine Forever!!
Don't ever forget us
The legend of the super orchestra
The legend of the S orchestra
GYA
Don't!
WHW
The S orchestra was really special for us.
It was only for a year but....
It made a big change in us all.
Masumi-chan!
DISAPPOINTED
SEE YOU!

it broke up today.
Do you remember what I did tonight?
Who cares!!
Whose is this?
And where is my jacket?
Hey!
Let's get one more drink!
うぃっ
HIC
But first we're going to the game center.
Eh~~~~!?
Back to the game center!
ぐいっ
YANK
But the game centers are already closed!
I think...

Then let's go to another karaoke bar...
TSK
Karaoke is closed, too!
It's 5 o'clock in the morning!
Huh ~~~!?
KARAOKE
Sempai... Didn't you know that?
I didn't know you liked games and karaoke so much.
No...
I don't like them...
Ehh!? Then why do you want to go back?
Because everyone was teasing me...
Sempai... Nobody hates you.
I'm such an unlikable man!
HN/
They all like you...
They're all your friends from the S orchestra.
I'm going home to drink!

I can't help it.

Well... Kaoru-chan.
I had given you my email address..
But I was getting a lot of junk mail so I changed it and...
Synchronized crying
Kaoru-chan...!?
Mo-chan?
Chiaki-sama...
He didn't ask us to be in his new orchestra.

We were chosen to be in the graduation concert.
SNFL
We tried hard...
Today... some people asked me if they could "join the new orchestra."
I refused them.

I had a good time with the S orchestra.
that was the first orchestra I ever conducted.
I appreciate them but...
But...
I don't want to create something that's an extension of the S orchestra.
I can't stand him!
Just wait, he'll see!
I hope they do even better than I expect.
The Suzuki sisters...
We're never going to give up!

When we get home, can you teach me that piece?
KLK
That's a cool song. ♡
"Dance in the Village Inn"?
Sempai...
Idiot!
That's not a waltz step.
Like this!
GRR
ZUN-CHA-CHA
It says it's a "waltz."
ZUN-CHA-CHA
So I thought it should sound like this.

Nodame and Chiaki's Waltz
"Dancing After Coming Out of a Pub in Town"

When the flowers bloom...

everyone will have moved on to the next stage.

Lesson 32

BEETHOVEN...
I'm Nodame.
Is this Saiko-chan?
This is Shinichi's cell, right...?
Oh...
Shinichi-kun.
I'll get him.
Huh...?
PEEP
Hello?

SAKURA GORO
Shinichi-kun... telephone...
Wake up, wake up.
Huh...?
Uncle Take!?
Un...
Shinichi?
Who is it?
Come home right now!

Who was that?
BEEB BEEB
Eh!
You don't remember?
Wh... why am I in your apartment?
Wa. waltz/?
So we drank and sang.
After the graduation party you said you wanted to "drink beer in my kotatsu."
Huh.
Morning again...?
SNICKER
We also danced the waltz.
And bring your girlfriend, too!
That's an order!
Understand/?
KLICK

Does Nodame look okay?
This timing is horrible...
How did this happen!?
VROOOOM
I had a feeling my uncle would be calling soon, but...
Chiaki-sempai.
I tried to make my face look smaller
What the hell is that!?
HEE
But I'm going to meet your parents...
I need to look nice.
That's not a nice look!!

Why do I have to take her to my house!?
Take that make-up off! Please...
It looks a bit thick now that I see it outside.
Do you think your parents are going to like me, sempai?
I bet he has the wrong idea about us!
横浜町田
Yokohama-Machida
500m
By the way... my parents are divorced.
The Miyoshi family looked after me
since I was 12 years old.
The home we're going to used to be my mom's parents'.
But now it's my uncle's house.

IMPRESSIVE
Welcome home!!
Ah...
-Chama...?
おおお!
WOW!
Yuiko!
Shin-chama!!

Shin-chama, you look nicer. ♡
It's because you haven't seen me for a year.
You're growing up, Yuiko!
HA HA HA
Shin-chama, ♡ I've missed you!
DIVE
Let's go inside.
Go home
Everybody's waiting in the living room.
AH..
SLAM
You haven't been in touch for a long time...

What are you thinking?
It seems you've already decided your future without consulting me.
TAKEHIKO MIYOSHI (50)
MIYOSHI CORPORATION, 2ND GENERATION PRESIDENT
I'm sorry.
It's you, uncle.
Who do you think enables you to study music so worry-free?
DAUGHTER YUIKO (10)
Shin-chama looks like he's putting on airs ♡
By the way, Shin...
SON TOSHIHIKO (14)

Is that person your new girlfriend?
Feels left out
Your tastes have changed...
Too much!
What happened to Saiko-chan!?
Saiko-chan?
I think you've mis-understood!
What do you mean!?
KACHA

Please, come in.
Ye...
It's a pleasure to meet you!! My name is Megumi Noda!
Shinichi-san always feeds me and I depend on him for everything!!
I'm just the housekeeper.
I need to have a little talk with Shinichi.
Be a good girl
I need to study.
Make yourself at home.
Make myself at home?

Still in trial period
Toshihiko!
Later, do you want to play violin?
It's been a long time
I'll accompany you.
Eh...
No thanks.
I quit playing.

I don't play because I don't want to play.
STP
STP
Ah, just because...
Why!?
Shinichi!
Not everyone has a love for music like you.
He used to love it...
the violin.
Teach me, teach me!

He's at a difficult age.
Why!?
Then... He doesn't like me any more?
Leave him alone...
That's because he liked you a lot.
He hung around me all the time.
He finally realized that he's going to be the successor to the Miyoshi Group.
That's good.
But, he has been studying very hard lately.
Bragger
Let's just worry about you today!
I was always at the top of my class.
Ten's a high enough grade at a prestigious school!
But... his grades are barely a ten at school.
HN
Which isn't good...

Then let me introduce you.
GACHA
You understand now, don't you?
Seiko is overseas working for a culture enterprise.
By the way, where's my mom and aunt Chiharu!?
Oh.
KNOCK
And Chiharu went with her to take a vacation.
He is Dr. Gyarto Fisher/ Guillart Guillardo
He's a world famous practitioner of hypnotherapy.
Guten Tag
(Hello.)

See you in awhile...
Again!? That's what I thought...
Gya ha ha a ba ba ba!
A ha ha ha ha!!
キャアア
KYAAA
Mukyaa!
Gya ha ha a ha ha!!

Amazing.
KYAAA!
キャア
Merry-go-round!
They're already good friends.
アア
ガッチャーン
CRASHHH
FWEEE
へー
AHAHA
あは
Yuiko-chan is a difficult girl.
あ
But she is laughing much...
Fuoooh...
GACHAN
GACHAN
ガチャーン
ガッチャーン

Is this okay?
I don't have to lie down over there?
They can never hypnotize me.
Last time we even tried to do it with a psychic.
And before that we tried Kajikito.
This is my third time getting hypnotherapy.
That many!?
That's fine.
If you can relax, there is fine.
Yes. I can.
You sound like you've done this before...

Airplanes and ships phobia
Sometimes it works, sometimes it doesn't.
There are no guarantees.
My uncle does this kind of thing when mom's not home.
Hypnotherapy isn't magic or ESP.
So, doctor, have you fixed people with my problems before?
Yes, I have.
But only two.
That many...?
But out of three people, one didn't work.
That person was a famous musician.
Can we talk about your story?

Latey...?
Yes. You're attending a university?
How is life at school?
So...
His zone was too deep to get into
Why don't you tell me about what you've been doing lately?
It's a disaster...
Her room is always filled with garbage...
And her body gives off this offensive odor... I don't know what it is.
And even though she's a girl, she doesn't like taking baths. And she wears the same clothes for a couple of days. She's casual but she should at least dress up a little more for the man she loves.
AND ON
AND ON
This odd girl has been sticking around me for one and a half years...
She's very weird so I'd like it if you'd give her a check-up, too. And she lives right next door to me...

And today's the worst!
My uncle misunderstood and I had to bring her here because he thinks she's my "girlfriend".
Why did I ever bring her here...?
I could have disregarded his order.
Is he hypnotized?
PING
ぱちっ
He's not hypnotized at all...
Are you listening?

It didn't work, just as I thought.
Flying vehicles fall. If you're afraid of crashing, you don't have to fly.
I tried to tell you. Hypnotism doesn't work on me...
All right then, what does work on you!?
Tell me!!

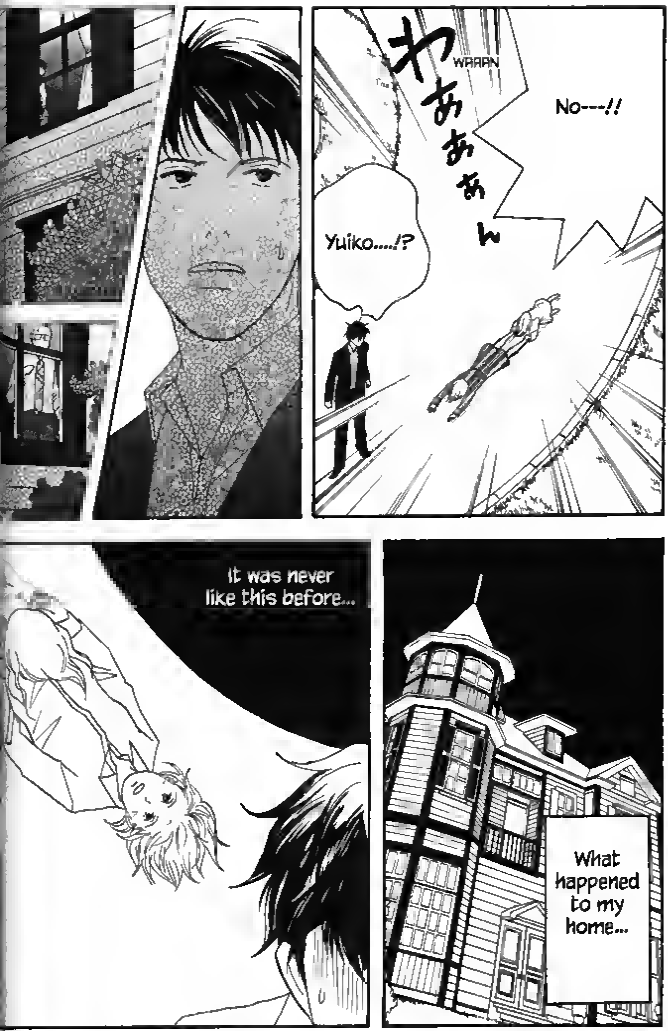
Why won't you quit music!?
Let me get it straight!
Shinichi...
Huh!?
You may have talent, but if you're never going to leave Japan it does you absolutely no good!
Get out into the world!
I can do music in Japan!
What are you saying!?
The home of the classics is Europe!
It's not true that music doesn't have borders!
Even though you're highly regarded in Japan, if you're not recognized by the world...
You'll never reach your full potential!

I think I can still do something in Japan...
Why don't you apply your passions to my company...
But now...
Potential...
I agreed with that before...
ORIENTATION GUIDE

CRASH

Who did that!?
Eh?
Here.
No...
Nodame.
BONK
Gyabo!
What are you, a child!?
Don't you know if you hit a ball from this angle, the ball goes that way!?
I... I'm sorry!
Are you an adult, or what!?

Is Yuiko injured!?
What did you do to Yuiko!?
Knock...
Jump contest.
Large hill game...?
Huh!?
WAAA
What happened!?
HEEEE
My antique plate and china vase!!
They're broken!!
I'd better get you out of here, Nodame!
FUGITIVE
逃亡
Eh!?
No!
Don't leave!! Shin-chama...
Nodame-chan!
Don't go!!
Please, don't!!


やあぁぁん
WAAAN
No---!!
Yuiko....!?
It was never like this before...
What happened to my home...

Lesson33

This house was always full of music.
Shin-ichi.
n you play aint-aens?
When Shin played, the sound was golden.
Shin was the pride of his grandpa, who also loved music.

I wanted to be just like Shin.
Children think they can be anything, even a space alien, when they grow up.
My chin has a crack in it again.
Toshihiko-bo'chama ♥
Dinner is ready...
Why didn't you knock before entering!?
I did...
but you were playing with your chin.
HEEE
I thought you went home!

Okay! I heard you! Just get out!!
I'm coming.
Wow... That's a big monitor.
I prepared dinner to apologize for breaking the plate and vase.
Work to pay back
Please eat. ♡
Motorola executives forecast cellular phone prices will significantly drop. March 12, 2003 (Wednesday) 6:11 PMSESE announces a new plan utilizing profit sharing to revolve around (Wednesday) 5:32 PM cell phones and
IT industries under their custom
Don't look!!
YANK
Misoji .. ?
You have no common sense and you're not at all sexy
What kind of taste does he have!?
I can't believe it!
Are you really Shin's girlfriend!?
Is your hobby computers, Toshihiko-kun?
He ds a t of em.

This house and Shin never change. just like classical music.
These days everybody has a computer!
Hobby...
Hm
HOWRR
The main part of dad's company is IT Industries.
Basically, that's my dad's specialty!
It will be mine, too...
Chiyo-san isn't such a good cook, anyway.
That's okay.
I don't mind that you cooked us dinner...
BUBBLE
BUBBLE

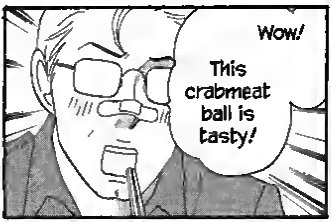
Please eat a lot!
TA-DA!
I never messed up rice balls either. ♡
GEEZ...
This is not cooking.
But why did you cook nabe in spring...?
BUBBLE
BUBBLE
Nodame-san said "I've never messed up nabe before."
Nodame-san said "Everybody is supposed to eat nabe from the same bowl."
Can you give me my own bowl!?
It's too far...
It's not easy to pick up!!
I'll get you some. ♡
Oh... sure!
KYAA
Daddy, can you pick some out for me? ♡
I want tofu and noodles. ♡

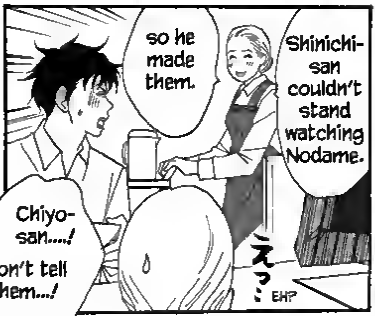
It's been a long time since we've eaten together and been so happy like this.
I'm so busy, I'm never home anymore.

What do you want?
Toshihiko, I'll get yours, too.
♡
tofu and noodles
♡
HA HA HA

Mom ran away from home.
And you don't care that much.

BUBBLE
BUBBLE


Wow!
This crabmeat ball is tasty!


Shinichi-san couldn't stand watching Nodame.
so he made them.
Chiyo-san....!
Don't tell them....!
えっ
EH?

Where did you get these?
HA HA HA
You didn't make them, did you?

You always do everything better than ordinary.
Studying and dancing.
Well... Shinichi...
Even your cooking is first-rate...
Shinichi, why don't you...
just give up music and join my ompany!?
ゲホ COUGH
ゲホ COUGH
But sempai can't swim, right?
I can guarantee you a position as my right hand man.
ゲホ COUGH

I'm not that versatile.
There's nothing left if you take away my music.
SMAK
Besides, I'm going to start a new orchestra.
What I want to do has meaning!
I don't have one... but I'll take care of it somehow.
I'll take care of everything from now on.
What do you mean? Are you going to start it by yourself?
I plan to gather together some of the best players and we'll perform.
What about a sponsor!?
A new orchestra...!?

Huh...
But that's an amateur orchestra.
Where can you go with that!?
You'd be better off joining competitions for conducting than starting an orchestra!
Don't you want to be a professional musician!?
I will be someday!!
When is someday?
Shin, you're Sebastiano Viera's pupil, right!?
When are you going to see him again!?
You can't fly, you can't take a ship!!

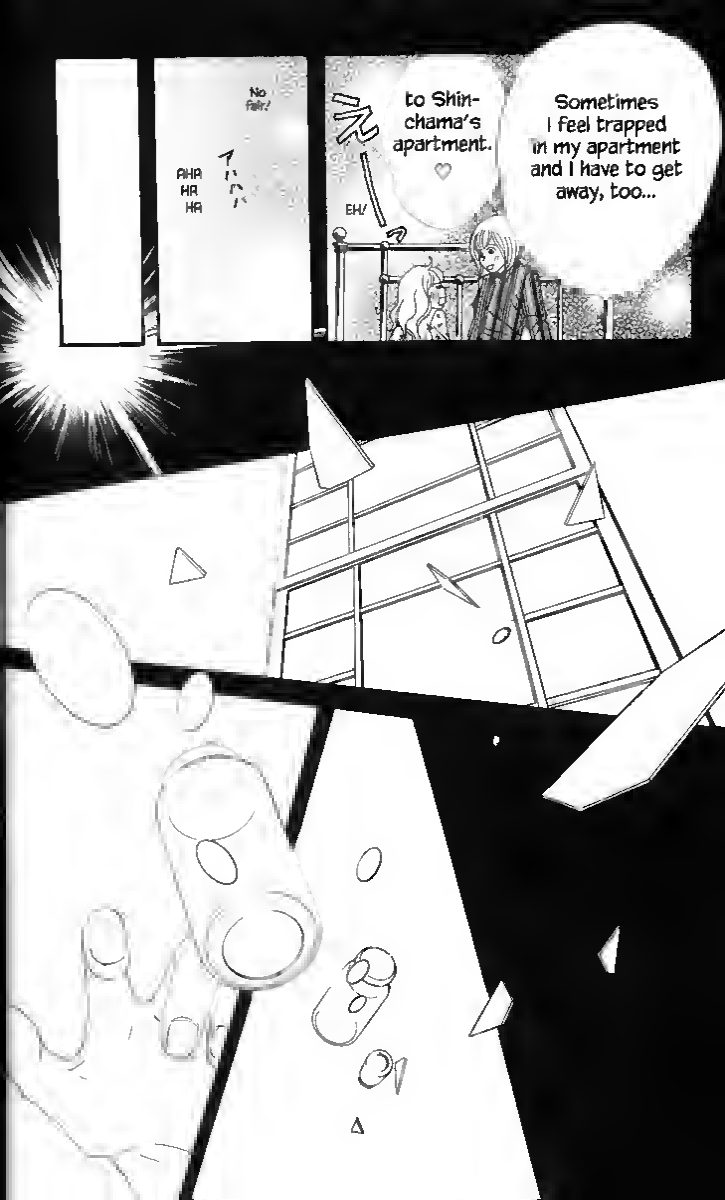
He can't...?
Disclosure...?
Toshi-hiko...!
You're smart and have skills. You're not like me.
You should join the company, like my dad says!
You have the right charisma to be his successor.
You can do anything, Shin!
I don't think you know about this, Shin...
But a long time ago we devised a plan to knock you out with medicine and fly you abroad.

The car you were in was involved in a pile-up on the freeway.
Toshihiko!
And the plane you were supposed to take had to return to the airport because of a mechanical failure.
Don't.
I'm pretty sure that you're cursed, Shin.
you shouldn't be concerned about him knowing.
If you want him to be a part of the Miyoshi family...
Toshihiko!!

うわあぁん
WAAAAAAN
Thanks for the dinner!
You don't care about me!! Not even a little!
Yuko-chan...
Everybody ignores me.
Even grandpa and my dad.
Uh...

By comparison, I have no value.
Nodame-chan.
Can you sleep with me!?
Don't leave.
Don't worry. I have permission to stay overnight.
It's too late to go home.

Let's take a bath together.
Nodame is stinky.
We played together a lot today.
Mother...
She is coming home, isn't she?
SNIFFL
グズ
She's not getting a divorce, right?
ふぉ
FUO
My mom said...
Ever since my grandpa passed away, she's uncomfortable in this house.
She feels trapped...
Uncomfortable...
Then...
She just needed to take a little break.


Sometimes I feel trapped in my apartment and I have to get away, too...
to Shin-chama's apartment. ♡
EH/
No fair/
AHA HA HA

Whaa...
Ah...

This nightmare...
I haven't dreamt it lately.
And who was that?
I've never seen...
that person!
I'm pretty sure that you're cursed, Shin.
It's probably because he said that to me...
Coincidence, just coincidence!

♪ The judge leads Him to the trial.
There is no comfort and no savior.
What's wrong, Shinichi?
Did you have that nightmare again?

Why don't we listen to some music?
"Matthaus Passion"
It's Bach. ♡
It's unusual for you to listen to music, Chiaki-sempai.
Why are you wearing that!?
Eh!?
Oh, this...?
This is one of your mom's negligees ♡
Don't I look like a princess? ♡
HMM? えへ♡
That's... mom's...

This music room is great.
There are so many records!
Wow...
Lots of sheet music, too!
My grandfather who passed away, this was his room.
Nobody loved music more than he did.
He'd played the cello for a hobby.
Wow... cello...?
Then did he used to play with you?
All the time.
Musicians who were close to him used to gather in this house.
They would perform together in the house's salon.

Well... it seems long ago but...
It was only five years ago.
Are they nobles?
The salon...?
Mukya!
This is Milch's record!! Look how young he is!
I want to bring this home.
Wow... a Heifetz 60-CD set...
Hey, is there any sheet music by Chausson?
Heifetz
MOZART
This house was always full of music.
This is even cooler when played on a piano. ♡
Oh... and this is what Mine did for his exam.
This is the violin sonata that Maki-chan played accompaniment for the other day.
Oh! It's Franck*!

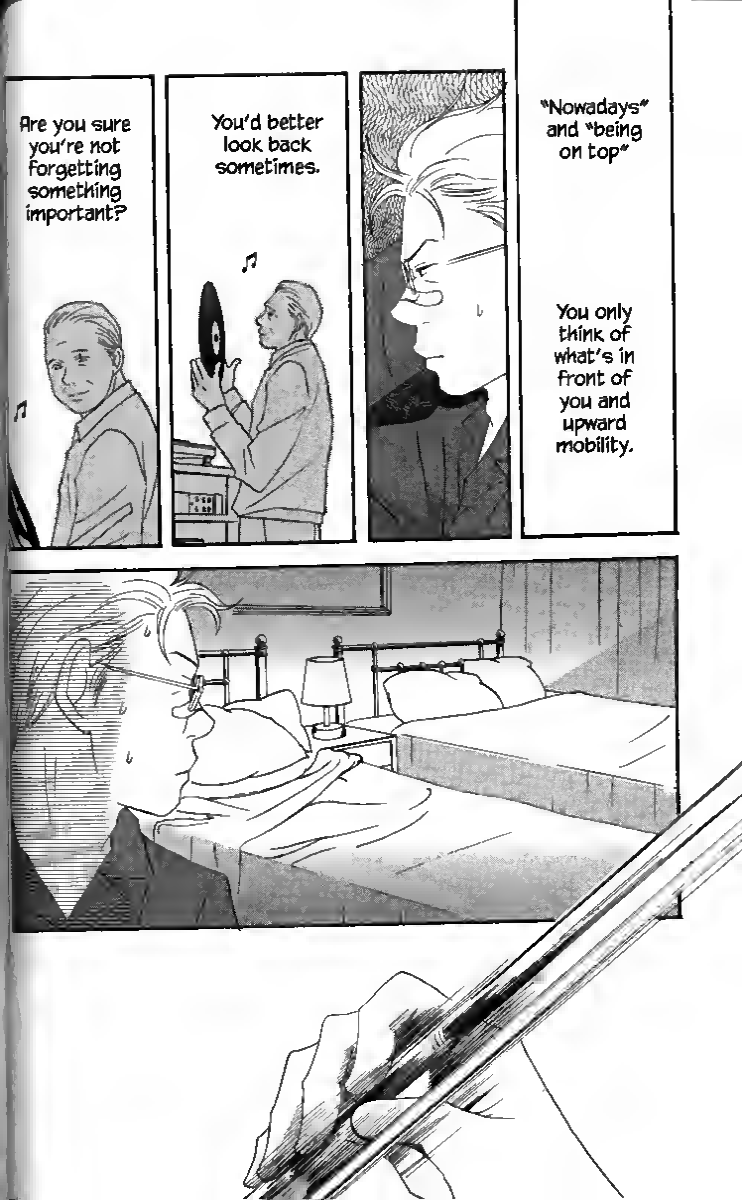
*César Franck was born in Belgium but raised in France. He is best known for his compositions for the organ

There's a piano in this house, right?
Huh?
And a violin?
Sem-pai...
INSPIRE
PANT
PANT
Yeah...
Are you serious...?
Signs of piano undernourishment
Nodame doesn't know this piece...
Gyabo.
If you really want to play, then this piece is better.
Why don't you listen to this?
I have the sheet music.
In your case
Eh?
Wait a minute.

TWEET
TWEET
Do you know what time it is now!?
This is the last piece that I played for my grandpa.

That's a very important matter...
Why didn't you tell me before this!?
It's 5 o'clock in the morning in Japan!
Why don't you think about the time difference!?
They take me too lightly!
Damn, I'm sick of them...
50 years old is still young!?
WAAA
They're outdated people!
You are not the president of this company!?
BEEP
Dammit!!

Morning shriek

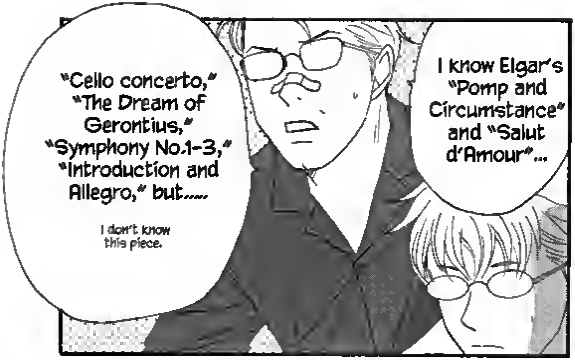

Are you sure you're not forgetting something important?
You'd better look back sometimes.
"Nowadays" and "being on top"
You only think of what's in front of you and upward mobility.

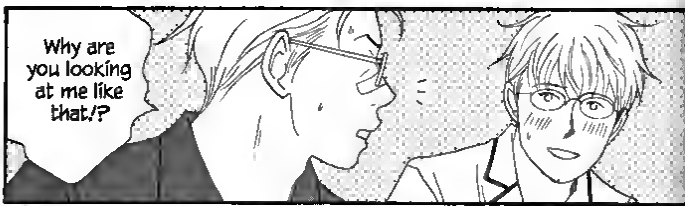
Lesson 34

Edward Elgar Sonata for Violin and Piano in E minor, Op82

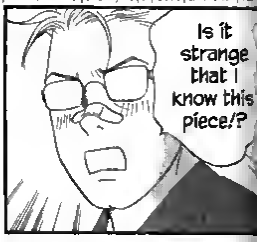
I'm getting goose bumps...

Those two...
Maybe I just haven't heard live music for so long...
That's not it...
Eigar's...
Violin Sonata.
What is... this piece?
I've never heard it before.


"Cello concerto," "The Dream of Gerontius," "Symphony No.1-3," "Introduction and Allegro," but.....
I don't know this piece.
I know Elgar's "Pomp and Circumstance" and "Salut d'Amour"...
This is Elgar!?



Elgar is Britain's most famous classical composer and he elicits much pride. He left behind a wealth of compositions and is respected by the people as a patriotic composer

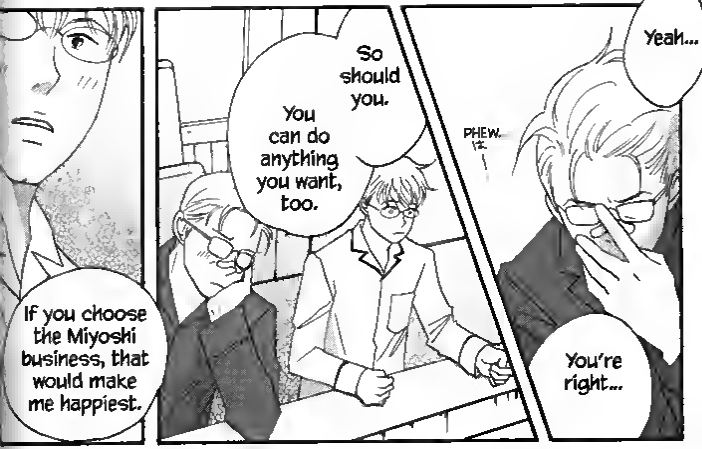


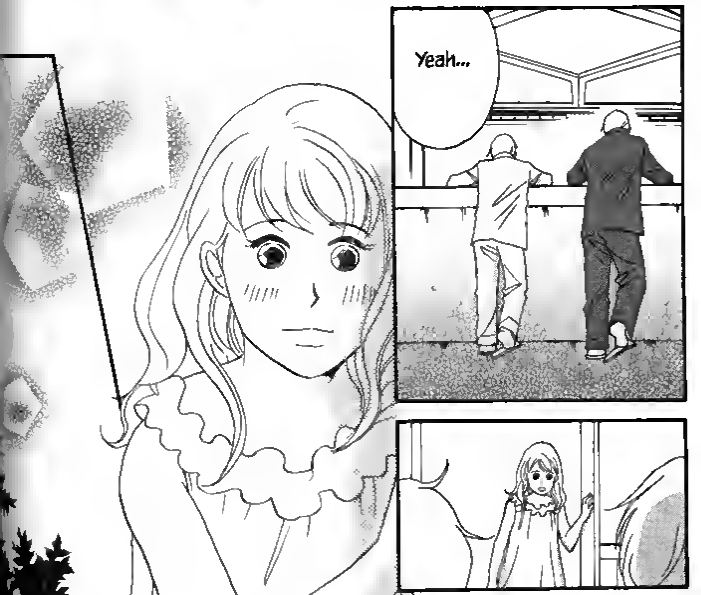
Elgar composed the march "Pomp and Circumstance" during a time of war so people called him a jingoist.
I heard that he went through a period when people shunned him.
His writing was in the classic style and conservative.
He was a lonely, old man.
"I hate music!" That's what he said, and he preferred to talk about horse racing and cricket.
But Grandpa said...
"This is a wonderful song, isn't it?"
The feeling of "This is my music!" It didn't bother Elgar that his music was classic and simple.
I need to try hard, regardless, too.
Elgar's pieces are timeless.

Every time I rebel against my father he uses these words.
"Classic," "Simple"

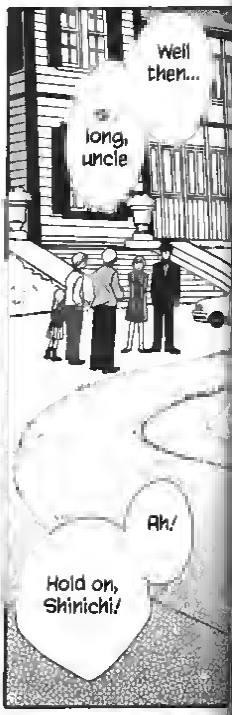
As usual...
She missed a note.
Ignored that rest

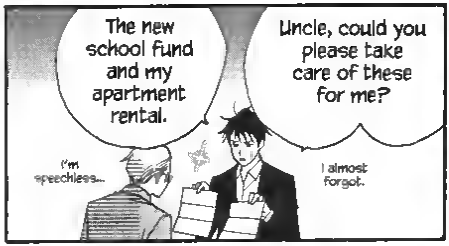
But...
I think...
Cousin Shin should keep playing music.


If you choose the Miyoshi business, that would make me happiest.
You can do anything you want, too.
So should you.
PHEW.
You're right...
Yeah...


Yeah...

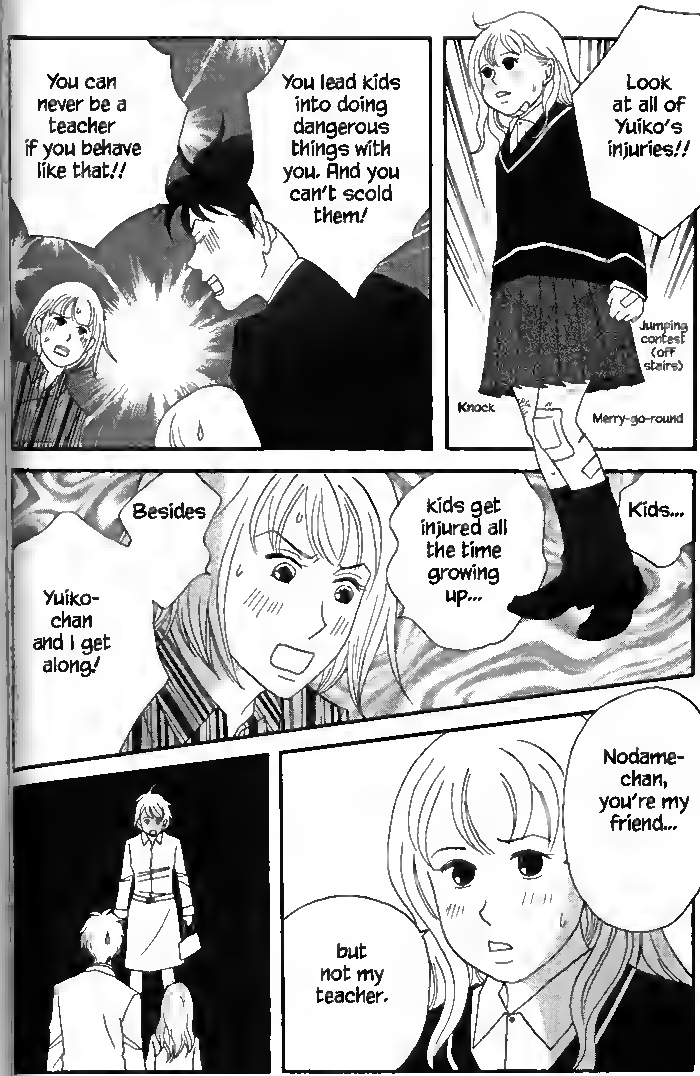
I don't think so.
This might be good.
How about this one?
Dolphin Therapy
They're swimming...
☆ Heart To Heart ☆


Well then...
long, uncle
Ah!
Hold on, Shinichi!

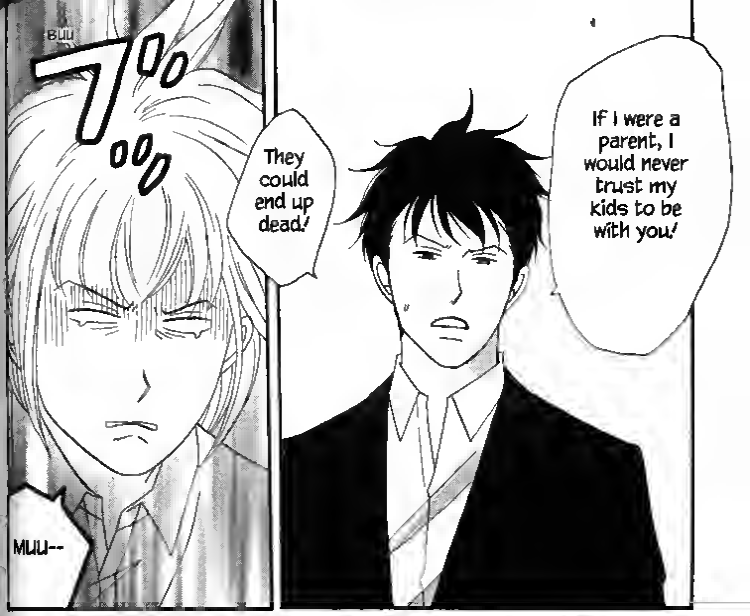

The new school fund and my apartment rental.
Uncle, could you please take care of these for me?
I'm speechless...
I almost forgot.

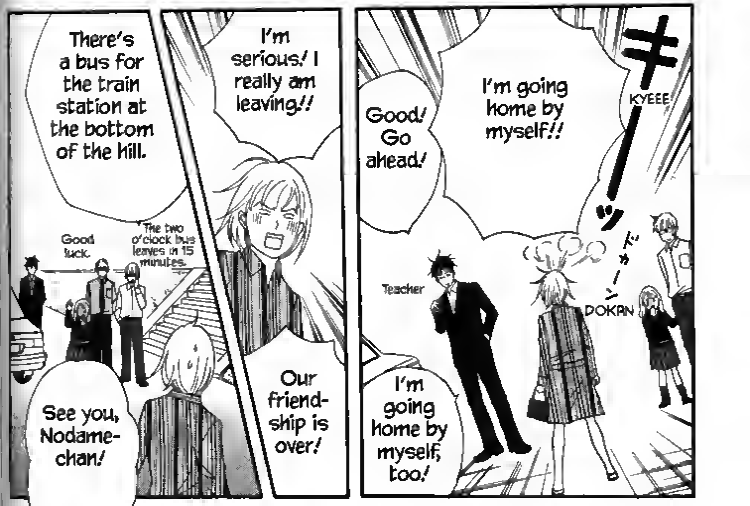
Shin-chama!
but don't let your violin talent go to waste.
Maybe studying to be a conductor is most important to you,
GRUMBLE
GRUMBLE
Yeah
Your violin playing isn't as good as it was before.
Cousin Shin...
and you....
Oh
I will, I will
HA HA HA
Will you visit us again?
And she also supports foreign students.
Seiko works for a cultural business related to music.
Please, don't misunderstand.
I want you to meet...
Would you come visit again?
Shinichi's mother, Seiko.

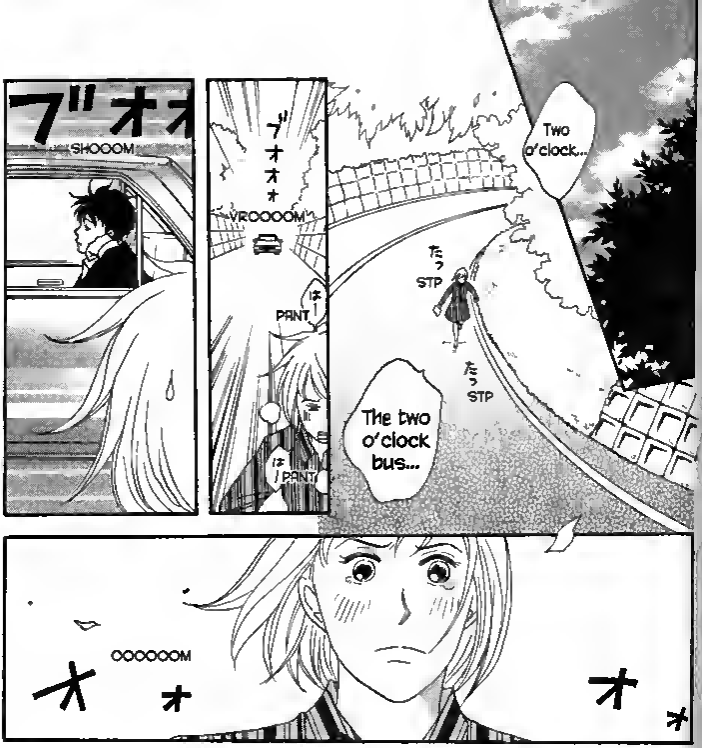
えっ?
EH?
You also aspire to become a professional pianist, right?
I can tell.
Well...
Actually I want to be a preschool or elementary teacher.
You're not suited for that for sure!
What...
Why not!?
Yeah.
You're not fit to be a teacher.
ふお
FUOH
Right.


You can never be a teacher if you behave like that!!
You lead kids into doing dangerous things with you. And you can't scold them!
Look at all of Yuiko's injuries!!
Jumping contest (off stairs)
Knock
Merry-go-round
Kids...
kids get injured all the time growing up...
Besides
Yuiko-chan and I get along!
Nodame-chan, you're my friend...
but not my teacher.

But Nodame-chan, you were so cool this morning.
I have a much better opinion of you now.
She's right.
And wouldn't the PTA also complain?
Don't you think a teacher like you would be harassed?
You'd get no respect.
You shouldn't waste a present
from a God that may have only one to give you.
She's right!
Yeah.
So I think Nodame-chan should try harder to play piano!
Nodame
will be a teacher.
No...


BUU
MUU--
They could end up dead!
If I were a parent, I would never trust my kids to be with you!


There's a bus for the train station at the bottom of the hill.
I'm serious! I really am leaving!!
Good luck.
The two o'clock bus leaves in 15 minutes.
See you, Nodame-chan!
Our friendship is over!
Good! Go ahead!
I'm going home by myself!!
KYEEE
DOKAN
Teacher
I'm going home by myself, too!



I'm sure you're better suited to play piano!

I wish I could pull her up...
But she'll never make it if she stays the way she is.
If she doesn't want to be a piano player...
just like when I played Rachmaninov...
It doesn't matter if she has talent or not.
The fact is...
I have to try harder myself.

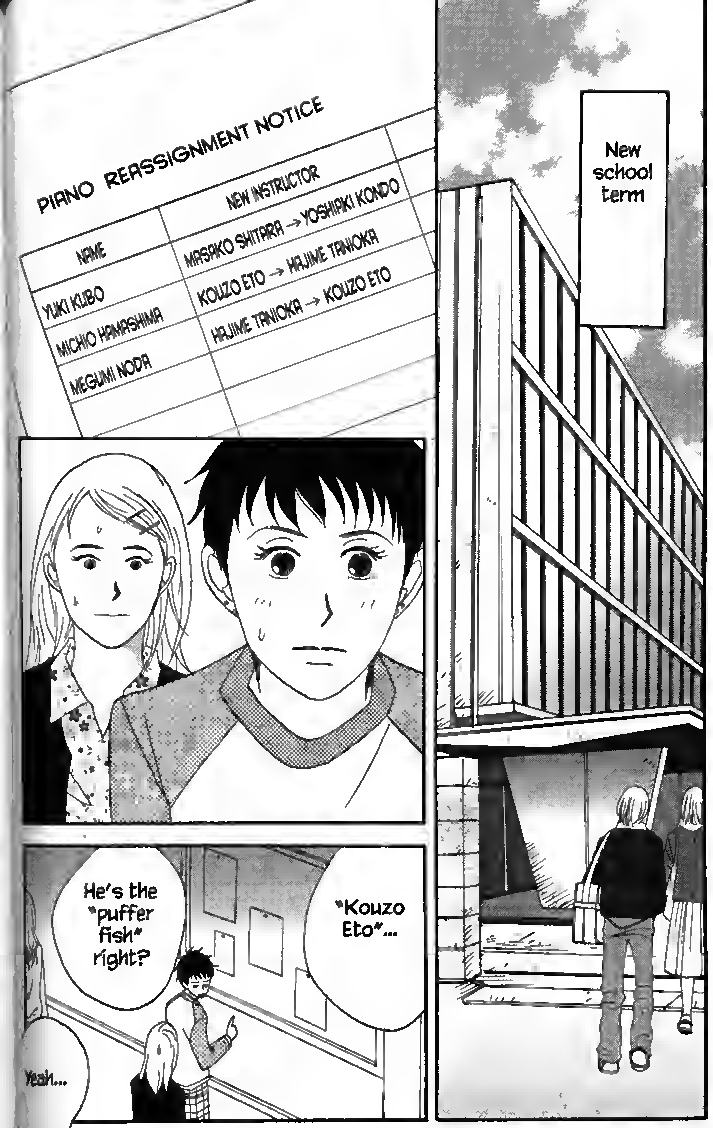
April
CAFE AHEAHE
Let me introduce everyone again...
I'm Kiyora Miki, I play violin.
This is Yasunori Kuroki-kun. He plays oboe.

And the last person, as you know, is our conductor...
Shinichi Chiaki-kun.
Touru Kikuchi-kun plays cello.
Hi.
We are the founding members of our new orchestra.
I saw you in "Dream Color ☆ Classic!"
Me too.
WA HA HA
The New Year's special pin-up!!
I brought it. Here! ♡

Hey, will you autograph this pin-up? ♡
Please? ♡
That poem matches you well.
Wow! You look like a prince now that I see you closer.
Well
Anyway
We're all here to talk about the new orchestra.
Sakuma!!
How many members can we get to join?
And where are we going to practice...?
What piece do we play?
Where do we perform, and when?

It depends on what piece we play, but...
I think a smaller group is better.
I suggest that our performance should be over summer vacation. More students will be available.
Oh! Masumi-chan is in a professional orchestra now!
Amazing!
HA HA HA
Vn : MASAMI OKUYAMA
Fl : MASAHIRO KOIZUMI
If anyone knows any more players from the music festival that might be interested... can you get me their names and what they play?
Ah!
I already made my list!
お!
Oh!
You're good, Kiyora!
Go, concert-master!
Heh heh
And Terai, too.
This orchestra is being made from scratch.

PEEP
PEEP
This is all the string players we have!?
RECEIVING MAIL
We need to get more members.
We should ask more people to join.
I passed the exam for the A orchestra. Piece of cake! \^o^/
I'm yours! ☆ Mine
NO ちがう...
What!? From your girlfriend?
The mail
Add one more stringed player
HM
That's a dirty smile...


PIANO REASSIGNMENT NOTICE
NAME
NEW INSTRUCTOR
YUKI KUBO
MASAKO SHITARA → YOSHIAKI KONDO
MICHIO HAMASHIMA
KOUZO ETO → HAJIME TANAKA
MEGUMI NODA
HAJIME TANAKA → KOUZO ETO
New school term
He's the "puffer fish" right?
"Kouzo Eto"...
Yeah...

YUKI KUBO

MICHIO HAMASHIMA

MEGUMI NODA

KOUZO ETO → HAJIME TANIOKA → KOUZO ETO

BAM
No.
I'm not!

Puffer
fish...?

Starting
today, I'm
your new
piano
instructor.
FLP
I'm
Kouzo
Eto.
Nice
to
meet
you.

永遠に輝け!!
似合う!
似合う~~♡
千秋先輩
よっぱらい
~~♡
!!
先輩っ!!
はいっ
先輩!
ちょっと
早いけど
バレンタイン♡
好きデス
♡♡
あーのためはモーツァルトです
え?
なぜ目をそらす?
そ、

Okuyama-kun, Sugahara-kun, thank you for giving me information about orchestral instruments!!

Real Nodame (Misoji font and other help) and Hoshino-kun, thank you for everything always.

Mikarin... thank you for Sakuma-kun's poem. That surprised me.

I can't believe this artist is drawing manga about classical music...!
Can I write "do" "re" like this on the sheet music?
えへ HMM
Beyer
I finally got an electric piano. But...
Rena Nodame

About the Author

Tomoko Ninomiya was born in Saitama in 1969. She made her debut as manga-ka with "London Doubt Boys" in 1989. Her main works include "Green" and "Miho the Trend Queen." She is currently working on "Nodame Cantabile," which is serialized in *Kiss* (Kodansha).

Here is Tomoko Ninomiya's comment upon winning the 28th Kodansha Manga Award in 2004:

"I hope someone enjoys reading this series. This hope and wish is what always motivates me when working on a manga.

"The original inspiration for 'Nodame Cantabile' came from an idea that I had, that it might be fun to write about a young piano student who practices the piano in a room full of junk. Looking back, I am amazed that my editor and the magazine let me serialize it, and I'm grateful.

"This is also a series which would not have been possible without the generous cooperation of music students and professionals whom I interviewed. The Manga Award goes to everyone who was involved with 'Nodame,' including Mikawa-san my editor and all the staff members who work with me.

"I will continue to enjoy working on this series, and I hope my readers will continue to enjoy it too."

Translation Notes

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction in our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

Puri Gorota, page 9

Puri Gorota is a cartoon character from *Nodame Cantabile* volume 3. Nodame has gotten a large box of chocolates featuring the faces of the characters in that cartoon. On page 11, Shinichi recognizes the candy he got to be Kazuo, who is another Puri Gorota character.

the Kanou sisters, page 23

The Kanou sisters, Kyoko and Mika, are a pair of beautiful Japanese women who are well-known in Japan for their adult videos. They also show up in various magazines, print ads, and celebrity TV shows.

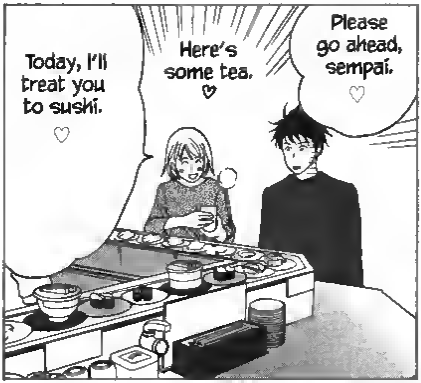
Nodame's non sequitur, page 30

Nodame says, "You take too long to enjoy something, it'll be taken away as if by a bird," which is something that doesn't really apply to the situation.

Sagojo, page 40

Sagojo is a character from a Chinese book that became a Japanese made-for-TV series in the late '70s. The boy that Mine is referring to as Sagojo looks like the character in the movie. Mine met this boy in volume 4 at the Nagano Music Festival.

conveyor-belt sushi, page 45



Nodame has taken Shinichi to a sushi restaurant that has the conveyor-belt serving method. The sushi is prepared and put on a plate that's placed on a belt, and it rolls past you. It's up to you to decide what you want to eat and take the plate from the belt. Different-priced sushi will be on different-style plates. At the end of your meal, the plates will be counted and added up for your total. Chiaki has grabbed a plate that costs 400 yen, which is close to $4.00.

sushi and sashimi, page 47

Sushi refers to small cakes of cold cooked rice, sometimes wrapped in seaweed and topped with slices of raw or cooked fish, egg, or vegetables. Sashimi, which is a little more daring, is simply small slices of raw fish. Nodame is freaking out because sashimi is generally more expensive than sushi, and she's going to be stuck with the bill!

banzai, page 85

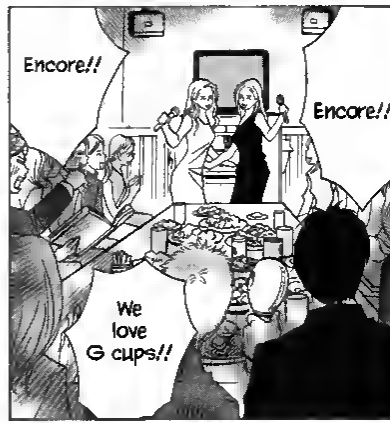
Banzai is the traditional Japanese cheer for good fortune, literally meaning 10,000 years. It's very similar to "Cheers!"

yakyuken, page 87

Yakyuken is a game similar to strip poker where the loser of each round must take off a piece of clothing. The play is based on "rock-paper-scissor," and the boys like to invite girls to play it with them.

karaoke, page 89

Literally meaning empty orchestra, karaoke is the sensation from Japan where you get to sing the lyrics to your chosen song from a TV screen while the music plays behind you. The great part is, the lead singer's vocals have been removed so you get to be the star! There are many karaoke bars in Japan and America where kids can go and have a fun time pretending to be their singing idols.



print club, page 89

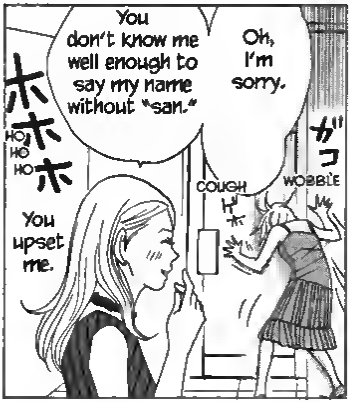
A print club is a public photo booth where you can get your picture taken with your friends for a small price. You can personalize them with fun borders, and you get a sheet of little sticker-photos you can share and trade with your friends.

"Stars on Earth," page 93

Miyuki Nakajima's song "Stars on Earth" is the theme song to a very popular documentary-style TV show in Japan called *Project X*. She's well-known for singing many other theme songs for anime. Also on page 94, a note next to Shinichi says, "He likes *Project X*."

Saiko-san, page 96

The use of honorifics in Japan is very important in determining status and familiarity. Saiko is from a rich family and considers herself upper class. She pretended that she was insulted when Nodame addressed her without an honorific. It is in fact rude to omit honorifics until you know someone well enough.



-chama, page 115

The honorific chama is a variation of sama, which is a pretty formal type of address. Much like san is changed to chan for familiarity and cuteness, sama is changed to chama for the same effect. Although sama denotes a higher degree of respect, in upper class families it is used more commonly, and chama is used the same as you would use chan. Another variation would be bochama as used for young boys. Also notice in the next panel that Nodame notices the use of chama. She's letting us know that she's surprised to find Shinichi's family to be so upper class.

Kajikito, page 126

Kajikito is a Buddhist ritual invocation directed to the gods for the purpose of seeking blessings or protection.

Misoji, page 140

Back in volume 4, Nodame created a font called "Misoji" and installed it into Shinichi's computer. As she is being dragged out of the room, she thinks she recognizes her font on Toshihiko's computer.

nabe, page 142

Nabe is soup that is served in one pot and everyone eats from it together. Nodame has prepared it in such a large pot, though, that it seems a little hard to handle.

bathing together, page 151

In America, this may sound a little odd, but in Japan communal bathing is the norm and not quite what it sounds like. Generally, in Japan, you cleanse yourself outside the tub, and the bath is more for relaxation. It's traditional for children to bathe with their parents and even for strangers to enjoy baths together at a hot springs resort or public bath.

Matthäus Passion, page 156

Also known as St. Matthew Passion, this is an opera-style composition written by Johann Sebastian Bach to be performed on Good Friday in the Lutheran Church.

HIGH HOPES AND SOUR NOTES

After Momogaoka Music University's festival, Classic Life *magazine runs a big story on Shinichi's amazing conducting performance. But since graduation, he's feeling frustrated—and* not *because he still has a fear of flying (despite the work of a determined hypnotherapist!). Shinichi wonders what the future holds, and then a chance meeting leads the music prodigy into a whole new direction. Meanwhile, when Nodame visits Shinichi's family, no one escapes unscathed. Now the friendship between Nodame and Shinichi is threatened. Could this mean the end of Nodame's Cantabile?*

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